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Yes 121

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The Justice Department has no more antitrust concerns about the United-Continental deal.

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Iraq's prime minister put his nation on its highest level of alert for terror attacks.

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Smoke wafting from a Cadillac Escalade on the Las Vegas Strip set off Paris Hilton's latest legal troubles.

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LIVING TRASH CAN

ED PROPST

The hollowed out trunk of a flame tree located next to Winchell's Donut Shop and across Shenanigan's Restaurant in Garapan becomes a convenient trash receptacle. The trash inside the tree came to light after the tree was cut down last week.

See related letter to the editor on **Page 11**



Medicare accepts CHC corrective plan

» Hospital's plan described as 'sufficient, acceptable'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has formally accepted the Commonwealth Health Center's re-

port on its plans to resolve deficiencies that were uncovered at the hospital during an investigation survey in March.

The federal agency also expressed its initial approval of the plan of actions, describing the report as sufficient and

See **MEDICARE** on Page 4



Over 1,500 to get pay cut notices today and tomorrow

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Over 1,500 notices of 16-hour work reduction per pay period will be issued to Executive Branch civil service and excepted/contract employees today and tomorrow, as the government tries to live with only \$132 million to sustain its operations in fiscal year 2011.

The work hour cuts—from the current 80 to 64 per pay period—will take effect 30 days after receipt of the reduction-in-force notices, in time for the start of fiscal year 2011 on Oct. 1.

See **PAY CUT** on **Page 4**

AG's party for delegate bet draws flak

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Attorney General Ed Buckingham's hosting of a Saturday night campaign gathering for U.S. delegate candidate Joseph Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party has drawn flak from community members, citing possible conflict of interest involving the highest law enforcement officer of the Commonwealth.

See **DELEGATE** on Page 4

Buckingham



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Audit report a 'big blow' to Arts Council

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

The executive director of the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture described the audit report issued by the National Endowment for the Arts Office of Inspector General as a "big blow" for the cash-strapped council.

"It is a big blow for the Arts Council but I'm hopeful. ... We're going to fight this and rectify the problems," Angel S. Hocog told *Saipan Tribune* Friday.

The damning report, issued on Aug. 17, reviewed the four grants received by the council from

NEA from 2005 to 2009. The preliminary audit findings prompted NEA in October 2009 to suspend funding to the council.

The report concluded that the council did not have a system in place to track all costs reported, did not maintain expense documentation and may have inappropriately awarded grants to ineligible organizations and individuals, did not maintain the required personnel activity reports, did not have adequate internal controls in place, and did not have a Section 504 self-evaluation on file.

The report stated that the council incurred unallowable expenses such as food expenditures, extended hotel stays, and purchases of vehicles without prior written approval from NEA.

The report also cited questioned costs, including employee salaries and fringe benefits and travel expenses.

Based on the findings, the NEA Office of Inspector General recommended that the council develop written policies and implement procedures that will address the inadequacies and conform with NEA requirements.

The report proposed that the council be considered a "high-risk" grant recipient and deemed ineligible to apply for or receive

NEA awards.

The report also recommended NEA to terminate all funding and suspend any awards until the council has implemented corrective measures and improved its management of federal grants.

Should NEA reinstate the council's eligibility to receive funding, the report proposed that the council be put on the cost reimbursement method of funding. Under this method, costs for the grantee are reimbursed when required matching costs have also been incurred.

Based on the report, a total of \$337,666 has been identified as potential refund by the Arts Council to NEA.

According to Hocog, they were informed via teleconference by the Office of the Inspector General about the report findings and were given a copy of the report a few days later.

"We're given 45 days to respond. ... We are halfway to the recommendations and citations that we're indicated in the report," added Hocog.

He said the council is working with Secretary Melvin Faisao of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Department of Finance in addressing the issues stated in the report.

Arts Council 'pleased' with fundraising turnout

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture executive director Angel S. Hocog is pleased with the turnout of the luncheon fundraiser held Friday at Fiesta Resort and Spa's Azucena Rooms.

"With this economy, I'm pleased. I'm just grateful for the support of other government agencies and all the friends of the arts council," Hocog told *Saipan Tribune* at the fundraiser.

The fundraising activity was attended by some local artists and supporters, including government personalities. The luncheon cost \$20 per head.

The amount raised from the luncheon will help subsidize the airfares of the delegation of CNMI artists that will be flown to Guam to participate in the Guam Micronesian Fair in October.

This year's Guam Micronesian Fair will take place at the Ypao beach from Oct. 15 to 17.

According to Hocog, the Guam Micronesian Fair is an opportunity for the local artists to promote their artworks, the CNMI and its culture.

Hocog said participation in the Guam Micronesian Fair

is on a first-come, first-served basis for 30 visual and traditional CNMI artists.

Registration is open to local artists who are registered with the Arts Council, he said.

Hocog said deadline for registration will be until all slots have been filled up.

According to Hocog, the Arts Council will decide on another fundraising event once they close the registration.

Hocog said they also plan to meet with the participating artists to try and come up with a solution for the funding needed to fly them to Guam.

"If worse comes to worst, I would have to talk to them and tell them that we can't come up with enough funding but if they are still interested to join the fair, they have to work out their own airfare," he said.

Hocog added that they only have to come up with the money for the airline tickets since the Guam Visitors Bureau will sponsor the hotel accommodations, ground transportation, and meals of the CNMI delegates.

Hocog urged all artists "to come together" at this tough economic time and work on a solution to enable them to take part in this important cultural event.

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Saipan streetlights to be replaced with LED lamps

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Fitial administration wants to replace the island's streetlights with energy-saving LED lamps that will generate some savings for the government, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Abe Utu Malae, CUC assistant executive director for operation, said the government is eyeing 1,200 new streetlights for the initial installation, funded by grants made available through the stimulus law, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Malae disclosed that the Commerce Department is now finalizing the details of the plan.

Tropical storm spotted north-west of Marianas

A tropical storm was spotted moving northwest of the Marianas region yesterday afternoon, according to the Guam-based National Weather Service.

It reported, however that no tropical cyclone watches or warnings are in effect.

As of 1pm yesterday, the center of tropical storm 08W was located near latitude 21.1 degrees north and longitude 135.6 degrees east. This is about 800 miles northwest of Guam and 820 miles north-northwest of Yap.

The NWS bulletin issued at 2pm showed that tropical storm 08W is moving northwest at 20 miles per hour and that this general motion is expected to continue over the next 24 hours with a slight decrease in forward speed.

Packing maximum sustained winds at 45 miles per hour, the tropical storm is expected to gradually intensify during the next 24 hours, the weather agency said.

The tropical storm brought rains to many parts of Saipan early yesterday morning and late afternoon. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

"ARRA approved the funding and the Department of Commerce is finalizing the bid documents for the purchase and installation of 1,200 LED streetlights," said Malae.

LED stands for light-emitting diode.

Malae said that, in addition to being environment-friendly, the new lights would generate a substantial amount of savings.

Saipan streetlights currently use mercury lamps.

"What we are doing now is asking our supplier to provide high pressure sodium [lamps]

instead of mercury streetlights, which should be eliminated... because they cost too much to operate and the mercury, of course, is bad for the environment," explained Malae.

The government is CUC's biggest utility customer.

CUC has LED light bulbs currently displayed at the office, according to Malae.

Research on LED streetlights has shown that the increasingly popular lamps strike the best balance between brightness, affordability, and energy and environmental conservation when their life span—from production to disposal—is considered. LEDs consist of clusters of tiny, high-intensity bulbs and are extolled for their power efficiency and clear luminosity.



SSHS OVERCROWDING

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Southern High School principal Craig Garrison explains the overcrowding issues for the 2010-2011 school year to a packed audience during orientation held Thursday and Friday on the SSHS campus. The school had to cap its enrollment at 850 because the school lacks classroom space. The school was built for 750 students and has added extra periods before school and after school to accommodate the overflow again this year. The principal says he hopes the Public School System can move forward with plans to increase capacity so that all students who want to attend SSHS can do so.

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Koblerville Youth Center gets computers from SSHS

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A few months after losing its computers to burglars, the Koblerville Youth Center has four newly refurbished computers, courtesy of the Saipan Southern High School.

Saipan Southern High principal Craig Garrison on Thursday donated the computers to the center, saying he felt it is the school's responsibility to also look after the welfare of the youths in the area and provide assistance to their needs.

The principal said the school's technology department representatives installed and tested the units last week before representatives of the youth center.

The center is being run by youth coordinator Vernon Lee Manglona. The facility serves 25 to 50 children from 6 to 17 years old.

"We used our own money to buy the parts needed for these units to make sure that it will help our youths. We felt



From left, Donna Mae Formalejo, Evelyn Hermosilla, Aileen Bonavie, Rachel Sumor, Youth Affairs representative Vernon-Lee I. Manglona, and community advocate Daniel Durkin.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

that it's our responsibility to assist and support the center since this is the place where many of our students go and stay

when they're out of the campus," said Garrison.

He said his school's technology de-

partment team will continue to provide technical assistance to these newly installed units to ensure its network will function properly.

The center's computer and other equipment were stolen by unidentified burglars in June. The stolen items were valued at over \$2,000.

Saipan Tribune learned that Koblerville resident Daniel Durkin had approached Garrison to see if the school could assist the center in having its computers replaced.

The school's technology support

team developed a micro-network consisting of four networked computers and flat panel monitors, along with the network switch and optical mouse and keyboards. These students are members of the Microsoft training laboratory where SSHS students are certified as computer technicians.

"Both the community and the school are partners in the education of every child and providing these computers allow that partnership to flourish so that all children can benefit in the community," Garrison said.

Manglona heads Rota casino panel

Laura Maria I. Manglona is now chairperson of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission, while Ephrem S. Taimanao is vice chairperson and Abelina T. Mendiola is secretary.

The commission held its election of officers for 2010 and 2011 on Aug. 14 during their regular monthly meeting at their office in Tatachog on Rota.

Alfredo O. Antolin Jr., executive director of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission, said Manglona, Taimanao and Mendiola will each have a two-year term or earlier when their terms as commissioners expire, under

the commission's bylaws.

Former commission chair Diego Songao stepped down, while former commissioner Justin Manglona's term as commissioner expired.

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola has yet to name new appointees to the commission.

The Rota Municipal Council's approved operational budget for the Rota Casino Gaming Commission for fiscal year 2010 gives a \$60,000 annual salary to the commission's executive director and \$228,865.17 for commissioners. (*Haidee V. Eugenio*)

PAY CUT

From Page 1

Flexibility will be given to department or activity heads on how they would go about the 64-hour work per pay period. This could mean a four-day workweek for many.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the work hour cuts apply across-the-board for the Executive Branch.

He said the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, by the nature of its size, will probably have the most number of affected employees.

Exempted from the work hour cuts are doctors, nurses, police officers, fire fighters, corrections officers and others holding so-called critical services, along with federally-funded positions, in the Executive Branch.

The Fitial administration has yet to determine the exact number of exempted personnel.

"We have requested department heads from offices considered as 'critical services' to identify their respective personnel who will be covered under the 'critical services exemption,'" Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

He said the over 1,500 notices include the estimated 100 notices issued

to Department of Public Health employees on Friday.

Employees at the Judiciary and Legislature are not covered by the reduction-in-force plan.

"We are hoping that the Legislature and the Judiciary will get on board with our cost-reduction efforts," the press secretary added.

The Public School System and Northern Marianas College are also exempted from the pay cuts.

"However, we hope that the new budget bill will provide the necessary expansion of reduction of hours to other activities outside of the Executive Branch," he said.

The FY 2011 budget bill is now with the Senate.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota) said the Senate will be ready to act on the \$132 million budget bill in tomorrow's session.

Affected government employees, especially the lowest paid, are now bracing for the 20 percent cut in their salary in FY 2011 as called for by the RIF plan.

Some of them, including those receiving less than \$5 an hour, said they may be forced to apply for food stamps to make ends meet.

Also exempted from the pay cuts are constitutionally protected positions,

including the governor, lieutenant governor, lawmakers, judges and justices. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos have been voluntarily cutting their salary by 10 percent to help cut government spending.

The expanded reduction-in-force is in addition to the 10-percent pay cut for contract or excepted service employees in the Executive Branch in April.

"Six more hours of cuts will be hard. But we have no choice but to accept it. Better than no job at all," one of the contract employees now receiving 10-hour cuts said Friday.

The Fitial administration has also been identifying Executive Branch employees who may be terminated or whose contracts will not be renewed.

The plan calls for the abolition of functions "that cannot at this time be considered essential and abolish redundant or nonessential positions."

While the government is expected to have \$132 million for operations in FY 2011, its spending is currently at \$150 million to \$160 million. Without spending cuts, its operating deficit will further increase. Just a few years ago, the government had over \$200 million for its operation. Early this year, the government revised its projected revenue for FY 2010 to \$137 million, from \$150 million last year.

MEDICARE

From Page 1

acceptable.

"We have reviewed the hospital Plans of Correction you have submitted and find them sufficient and acceptable," the Medicare email correspondence was quoted as saying.

Esther Muña, acting deputy secretary for hospital administration, confirmed the good news with *Saipan Tribune* on Friday.

Muña pointed out, though, that CHC is not yet off the hook because the Medicare team needs to conduct a resurvey of the hospital soon.

A resurvey is part of a Medicare requirement that validates the content of the plan of corrections. Resurvey visits are unannounced.

Muña described the compliance level of the hospital at over 90 percent and she is optimistic of a favorable response from the Medicare team.

"We need to make sure that we are following exactly what are in our plan of correction. For me, it's a great news that they find our report sufficient and acceptable. But they need to come back and do the resurvey as requirement. I

can say that we're not completely out of the hook, but at least our plans were acceptable. We're in the right direction," said Muña.

A Medicare team investigated the hospital early this year after receiving a complaint from an undisclosed source. It uncovered CHC's failure to comply with certain medical standards, requiring immediate resolution. It issued a 112-page document identifying these deficiencies and citations.

CHC officials said they have corrected these deficiencies one by one and submitted their plan of corrections on May 6.

Muna said that part of their report were the changes made in the policies and procedures at the hospital.

The CHC official emphasized that the hospital is still accredited by Medicare and is continuing to operate at the same level with "corrections."

She lauded the work of the hospital staff and employees in meeting those corrections.

Medicare had threatened to terminate its provider agreement with CHC if the deficiencies are not addressed.

CHC receives \$8 million to \$10 million in Medicare reimbursements every year for various services.

DELEGATE

From Page 1

Camacho said Buckingham, just like any other official, also has the right to exercise his political right.

"If the AG wants to host me, he can do that in his personal capacity and outside of government time," Camacho said Friday.

Camacho's official campaign website states that on "August 27," a campaign gathering will be "hosted by Attorney General Ed Buckingham and his office."

Aug. 27 was on Friday, but the actual gathering was on Saturday, Aug. 28, at Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's private residence in Gualo Rai.

Buckingham declined to comment yesterday about the matter, besides saying that the event happened Saturday night at the governor's home, and that he would be releasing a statement he made during the event, in the form

of a video.

Glen Hunter, a private citizen, questioned the attorney general's hosting of the event.

"How on earth does this not come across as a public showing of bias? Can the AGO and all the staff 'host' a meet-and-greet for a specific candidate? Even if it isn't illegal, does it not border on unethical?" Hunter asked.

He said Buckingham, tasked with ensuring a free and fair election as attorney general, should have thought twice about hosting a meet-and-greet with a candidate in a federal election.

Camacho's official Facebook page also announced the attorney general and his staff are hosting the gathering. This announcement was later deleted from the Facebook page after comments questioning the move was posted.

Candidates speak out

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, when asked for comment, said the attorney general should not have hosted

Camacho's campaign event.

"Given that the attorney general and his office are entrusted by law to provide counsel on the conduct of the election to ensure that polling occurs in a manner that protects the individual interest of every voter as well as the interest of the Commonwealth as a whole in the integrity of the ballot, for him to have aligned himself in any manner—but particularly in one so overt as that advertised by Camacho—would be a grave breach of faith with the public he serves and an abrogation of his oath of office," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The election for CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives is on Nov. 2.

Sablan, who is seeking re-election, previously served as executive director of the Commonwealth Election Commission.

"Having served 10 years with the Commonwealth Election Commission, I could never have imagined that the attorney general would do something

that would ever so undermine our faith in the Commonwealth government and the rule of law here in the Northern Mariana Islands," he added.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta, who is running for the delegate seat, shared the same concern about Buckingham's participation in an election campaign.

"As the chief law enforcement of the land, it is unfortunate that he's mixing his very important role as attorney general and politics," Babauta said in a phone interview.

Others interviewed said the CNMI should have an elected—rather than appointed—attorney general.

Besides Buckingham, other incumbent government officials hosted and will be hosting Camacho's campaign gatherings, based on Camacho's website.

'It's a violation of election law'

Human rights activist Wendy Doromal, in her blog, cited a provision in the CNMI Election Law, 6705. Unlawful

Campaign Activities, which states that "(a) No person may use the name of the government department or agency to campaign for or express support for a candidate running for public office; nor shall the buying or selling of fundraising materials in support of candidates for public office take place in any government building or facility."

Doromal, a former Rota teacher, said "certainly the event 'hosted by Attorney General Ed Buckingham and his office' at the governor's mansion is a violation of the CNMI election law."

"Nothing seems blurred there. But, of course, I am not an attorney, but AG Buckingham, 'his office' (assuming that 'office' means AAGs and staff, not his actual office space), and Attorney Joseph Camacho are attorneys," she said.

Attorney Jane Mack, commenting on Doromal's blog post, said "whether it violates the law or not, the real problem with Ed Buckingham sponsoring a campaign event is the appearance of a conflict of interest."

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House wants to hire economist, budget analyst, press officer

» Lawmakers assure 26 Legislature Bureau staffers of contract renewal

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio

(Cov-Saipan) said the House leadership plans to hire an economist, a budget analyst and a press officer, even as lawmakers assured 26

Legislative Bureau employees on Friday that their contracts will be renewed for fiscal year 2011.

The House and the Senate

held back-to-back meetings with LB director Glenna SP. Reyes and staffers on Friday afternoon to address concerns

on the notice of non-renewal of bureau's personnel's contracts.

The lawmakers' closed-door meeting with the bureau employ-

ees came days after Reyes issued a 30-day notification to LB staffers of the non-renewal of their contracts expiring on Sept. 30.

Reyes said the only way for the contracts to be renewed is if a budget is passed before Sept. 1.

Tenorio said the LB director's 30-day notice is a standard procedure, but assured bureau employees that their contracts will be renewed because an FY 2011 budget will be passed.

"The main concern was that they wanted to know whether they will be rehired or whether we have to reduce their salaries. ... We assured them that nothing like that [non-renewal of contracts] will happen. We need the staff as they are now. And in fact, we might need to hire additional. The vice speaker was talking about an economist, a budget analyst and a press officer," Tenorio said.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) separately said yesterday that the bureau employees' contracts will be renewed when the budget is passed.

The Senate is expected to pass the fiscal year 2011 budget in tomorrow's session.

"We told the LB staff that their contracts will be renewed, and that they've done a good job. The Senate is also considering their other requests like their budget," he said.

As for the House plan to hire three new personnel, Manglona said the Senate is addressing expenditure cuts while trying to save peoples' job.

Under the budget bill the House passed, LB is budgeted \$947,340. Of this amount, \$899,764 is for 28 personnel and \$47,576 is for all other expenditures.

Tenorio said the \$899,764 already takes into account a 16-hour work cut per pay period and 14 unpaid holidays.

This means that even if the Fitial administration's reduction-in-force plan so far only includes the Executive Branch, LB employees will also be subject to the 64-hour per pay period under the budget bill once it is enacted into law.

"What the administration did was provide us with the amount that is left over after the administration deducted every Friday off and the 14 holidays, so in other words, whatever regular salaries [they get] minus day off Friday every week and 14 holidays will amount to whatever is in the budget," Tenorio said.

The speaker said the LB director's contract will be addressed separately. Early this year, Tenorio wanted Reyes to step down immediately after the 17th Legislature was sworn into office.

He has since had a change of heart. On Friday, Tenorio said if he could have his way, Reyes could stay for at least another year.

"As far as I'm concerned, I don't mind retaining her. But this is a decision of all members. It's not only the House, but also the Senate," he added.

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Economist and Finance Industry Renowned Analyst Bud Conrad Leads the Pack of Speakers at the 10th Pacific Region Investment Conference in Manila



Bud Conrad
Keynote Speaker

Bud Conrad, Casey Research's Chief Economist, will keynote this year's 10th Pacific Region Investment Conference. With his experience as a futures investor for 25 years, Bud is all set to fire up this year's conference and share valuable insights on why we should not take for granted the apparent financial calm as he talks about "The Eye of the Storm," and where to make your investments. Bud graduated with an MBA in Harvard and an Electrical Engineering degree at Yale University. He is also a professor of graduate courses in investing at Golden Gate University. Bud's new book, "Profiting from the World's Economic Crisis," has been recently published by John Wiley and has already gone to second printing in the first month.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Bud Conrad
Chief Economist at Casey Research

Catherine Woodruff, Ph.D., CFA
Founding Partner, Houston Global Investors

David J. John
President, ASE Trust Corporation

Gerard A. Cruz
Chairman, Board of Governors, APAFS

Jack Lin
Co-Chief Executive Officer, Janus Capital International

Jason Miyashita
Vice President, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Jeff Detwiler
Fixed Income Portfolio Manager, Garcia Hamilton & Associates, LP

John J. Rice
Partner, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP

Louis Boulanger
Founder and Director, Louis Boulanger Now Limited

Mark J. Heath, CFA, CPA
Sr. Vice President, Metropolitan West Capital Management, LLC

Simon Rudolph
Executive Vice President, Franklin Templeton Investments (Asia) Limited

Xavier Timmermans
Head of Balanced Solutions, Investments Specialists, BNP Paribas Investment Partners

SESSION OVERVIEW

- Outlook for Asian Equity Markets
- The Case of Global Mandate
- The New Growth of Dividend Opportunity
- Corporate Governance Issues Facing Investment Fiduciaries
- Let's Talk About Bullion
- The Eye of the Storm
- ALM, LDI and Risk Allocation
- Active and Passive Management
- DC Plans Updates
- APAFS and Plans for the Future
- Fixed Income Markets Update
- Equity Markets Update

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- Outside Manila Delegates: USD 195 /head
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You may register online through www.brandspokeasia.com/apafs2010/index.php or download the registration flyer through http://www.apafs.org/APAFSWebsite/10th_APRIIC_download.php and send the scanned copy to apafs.pric@brandspokeasia.com

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Korean-descent students relearn their culture, tradition

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A well-known instructor in Korea visited Saipan for the first time to educate Korean children who were born or raised on the island about the richness of their own culture and heritage as well as other oriental cultures.

Korean celebrity Kim Bong Gon taught Friday afternoon some 60 young students at the Korean Community School the different values and traditions of their country. The lessons were also attended by the students' parents.

Kim owns and operates a large cultural school in Korea called Oriental Cultural School.

He travels to different countries around the world to remind the younger generation of Koreans born in a foreign country about their roots and impart valuable lessons about their unique traditions.

Kim's visit is hosted by the Junior Chamber International Pacific and the Junior Chamber International Pochun in Korea.

With its headquarters in Chesterfield, Missouri, JCI is a membership-based, nonprofit organization of 200,000 young people ages 18 to 40 years old in 5,000 communities and more than 100 countries around the world.

It aims to provide development opportunities that empower young people to create lasting positive change. JCI members seek ways to live out the slogan "Be Better."

JCI Pacific administrator Walter Yu said Kim's visit is very significant for these young Koreans who have never experienced such a kind of learning.

"Our main goal is to demonstrate to students their culture and other oriental culture because it is something that they have in common with other oriental nations," said Yu.

Yu translated Kim's lessons for *Saipan Tribune*, which included showing respect for elders and the proper way to approach them, obeying one's parents, being friendly and gracious to one's family, and being modest and sensible with one's wealth.

According to Yu, Saipan students who participate in the cultural exchange program between Saipan and Korea visit Kim's school to learn more about the Korean culture.

These students are sponsored by JCI Pacific, he said.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Korean instructor Kim Bong Gon gestures as he demonstrates to students the proper way of approaching elders last Friday at the Korean Community School in San Antonio.



Over \$5K at stake in GAMECON 2010

Sign up today for a chance to win thousands in prizes.

Glimpses of Saipan will be giving away over \$5,000 in prizes to the winners of GAMECON 2010 at Club V of Saipan Grand Hotel on Sept. 4.

Prizes include iPod Touch, portable DVD player, LG phone, Motorola Q9 smart phone, mifi cards, room accommodations at Fiesta Resort and Saipan Grand Hotel, among other prizes totaling over \$5,000.

Interested participants are encouraged to sign up today, Aug. 30, at MEGABYTE and enter in any of the following games and categories: Heroes of Newerth, team competition with five members per team; Halo 3, individual and team categories (four members per team); and Call of Duty Modern Warfare II, individual and team categories (four members per team).

Bar burglar gets six-month jail term; told to write essay

The Superior Court has imposed a six-month prison term on one of three men that broke into Jonny's Bar and Grill in Garapan last December.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo sentenced Johnny John to six months in prison for criminal trespass, with credit for the time he had already served in jail since being arrested on Jan. 13, 2010.

This means the 23-year-old John will no longer serve further jail time. He was, however, placed on two years of supervised probation.

Govendo ordered John to pay a \$200 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and \$100 probation fee.

John was also required to perform 50 hours of community service, write a letter of apology to the owners of Jonny's Bar and Grill, and testify against co-defendant Roger Jones Sellem.

Govendo also ordered John

Ticket bearers get 20-percent discount at Aoi Restaurant of Saipan Grand Hotel on Sept. 4. Other freebies will be given away to lucky members of the audience and gamers.

GAMECON 2010 and Back To School Expo is made possible by Glimpses of Saipan, Megabyte, IT&E, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Saipan Grand Hotel, Coastal Resources Management, Guam Army National Guard, Axe, G4S, Coca-Cola, Powerade, Foremost, Subway Restaurants, Scoops, Sorensen Media Group, Modern Stationery, American Red Cross, and Commonwealth Cancer Association/Comprehensive Cancer Control Program.

For inquiries, call Glimpses of Saipan/Beach Road Magazine Office at 235-7645 or Megabyte at 235-6131. See posters and print ads for details. (PR)

to write a three-page essay for his children regarding the effect of this case.

A review hearing will be conducted on July 7, 2011, to determine whether John has complied with the terms and conditions of his sentence.

John pleaded guilty to criminal trespass as part of a plea agreement.

Police said John, Jerry J. Sammy, and Sellem broke into Jonny's Bar & Grill on Dec. 26, 2009, by cutting the bar's padlock with a bolt cutter. Assorted beers, hard liquor, and a beverage cooler was stolen. The ATM was also forced open, but the suspects failed to get any cash from it.

Sammy pleaded guilty to burglary last month and was sentenced to six months in prison. He was given credit for the days he had already served in jail. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Individual Education Programs:

A Workshop for Parents



The CNMI Public School System encourages all interested parents to attend this workshop on Individual Education Programs (IEPs) on September 1, 2010 at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, Saipan from 8:00am to 1:00pm.

Parents play an important role in the development and monitoring of their child's IEP. This half day session will address:

- The purpose of the IEP;
- Information you can contribute to the IEP-The process for determining necessary services;
- Monitoring your child's educational progress; and
- Collaborating with your child's team.

The workshop will be presented by Carol Kosnitsky. Carol was involved with the development of one of the first Parent Information Centers in New Hampshire in 1977. She was also a Special Education Director of 20 years. Come hear her ideas for how you can be both a strong advocate for your child and a strong partner with your child's school team.

(Limited seating. Contact Donna Flores at 237-3015 to reserve your seat)

\$10M lawsuit vs dialysis bldg. designer junked

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court has dismissed the CNMI government's \$10-million lawsuit against the Texas company that designed the Commonwealth Health Center's dialysis center.

According to court documents obtained by *Saipan Tribune* last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Robert Bryan dismissed with prejudice the CNMI government's complaint and first amended complaint against Leo A. Daly Company.

Bryan ordered that each party should shoulder their own attorney's fees and court costs.

The judge issued the order after the CNMI government and the lawyers representing Leo Daly Co. entered a stipulation for the dismissal of the case.

Dismissed with prejudice means that the case cannot be re-opened.

Bryan, however, pointed out that the order for dismissal does not apply to Leo Daly Co.'s third party complaint.

Leo Daly Co. filed a third-party complaint against Moss Engineering, Michael Hattori & Associates, Geotesting Inc., Juan C. Tenorio & Associates Consulting Engineers, and several unnamed third party co-defendants.

On Wednesday, the federal court's clerk of court entered a default judgment against Juan C. Tenorio & Associates for not responding to Leo Daly's lawsuit.

Leo Daly's counsel asked the court to issue a default judgment after Juan C. Tenorio & Associates allegedly failed to respond or file an answer within the 20-day period.

The CNMI government filed the lawsuit against Leo Daly Co. in June 2009 over the alleged defective building plan of the dialysis center. The Alaska-based Law Offices of William R. Sattersberg Jr. then filed before the federal court an entry of appearances to represent the CNMI in the case.

The dialysis center project started out as a \$5 million undertaking in 2002 during the Juan N. Babauta administration. It ballooned into a \$22-million project in the course of its five-year construction. The project was supposed to be completed in August 2004, but was actually finished in December 2007. Even now, the building's dialysis center remains unused as it has yet to be certified by Medicare due to several issues, including an earlier finding that the building's reverse osmosis system fails to meet federal requirements. Hospital management says they have substantially addressed these issues.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 30, 1999

Creation of task force vs illegal drugs ordered

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez has ordered the creation of a prevention task force composed of representatives from the government and the private sector as part of the department's campaign against drugs. The Division of Mental Health and Social Services will initially make up the group, which will later involve other agencies like the Food and Nutrition Council to give the people an alternative life style. Villagomez said some of his patients before are willing to talk to kids to share their experiences as former drug dependents. "We have to push hard on that information campaign against drugs," he said.

Teno vetoes bill on adult privacy

A measure seeking tighter penalty against violators of the privacy of any person in the CNMI was vetoed by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on Friday in fear that the legislative proposal would infringe on the powers of the Judiciary and the Executive Branch of the government. Called the Commonwealth Adult Privacy Act of 1999, the legislation would have imposed criminal sanctions to offenders as well as awarded compensation damages of up to \$2,000 to individuals whose fundamental right to privacy has been grossly violated.

Aug. 30, 2000

Tougher fines vs business without license disapproved

Citing its potential unconstitutionality, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has disapproved legislation seeking tougher penalties against businesses operating without a government license. The proposed \$50,000 fine and imprisonment of up to five years as punishment for not having the license is disproportionate to the offense and therefore appears to be unconstitutional, he said in vetoing HB 12-45. The governor also noted that while the bill sought the additional of criminal penalties to civil remedies available under existing laws, it would have repealed these provisions if he signed this into law. He said the secretary of finance will no longer have the authority to issue a cease and desist order and the alleged violator can continue to do business during the judicial process.

PREL targets overhaul of assessment tests

The Pacific Resources for Education and Learning will develop for the CNMI enhanced assessment tests to cover all subject content areas tackled in public schools in efforts to measure accurate aptitude levels of students. PREL, in collaboration with the Public School System, has laid down plans to create enhanced Reading, Mathematics, Writing, Science, and Social Science assessment tests within the next four years. Test design teams are currently drafting Reading assessments which are being tailored to depart from the typical "bubble" tests that apparently limit students' capacity to fully comprehend narratives.

Aug. 30, 2001

Continental urged to assume Nippon Air's abandoned route

Continental Airlines may take advantage of Nippon Airways' decision to cut its Honolulu flights by deploying flights with increased seating capacity to the Nagoya-Guam-Saipan route. Nippon Airways recently decided to reduce more than a third of its 18 weekly flights between Honolulu and Nagoya, Japan. The Strategic Economic Development Council has advised the CNMI government to tap the huge Nagoya market that will be left out by Nippon Airways through intensified promotions. Local tourism industry players are soliciting the assistance of Continental Airlines to produce a promotional campaign that will try to lure travelers from Nagoya into Guam and the Northern Marianas.

Teacher-representative to BOE sought

The Association of Commonwealth Teachers urged all public school to participate in the upcoming election of the CNMI Board of Education Teacher Representative. As required by the CNMI Constitution, the governor is to recommend the appointment of a teacher-representative, duly elected by teachers, to sit at BOE meetings. The major task of this representative is to communicate teacher concerns to the Board and to report BOE responses to the teachers. In the past, there has been no mechanism to fulfill this Constitutional mandate. The Association of Commonwealth Teachers has developed a protocol that will meet the mandate and it has been agreed upon by the Board of Education and the Governor's Office.



First Friday Films



THIS FRIDAY

Dirt! The Movie

Winner of several national awards, *Dirt!* tells the story of Earth's most valuable and under-appreciated resource. The film explores the worldwide soil crisis and seeks to revolutionize the way we see dirt. Following the film, representatives from NRCS will discuss CNMI soil issues and answer audience questions.

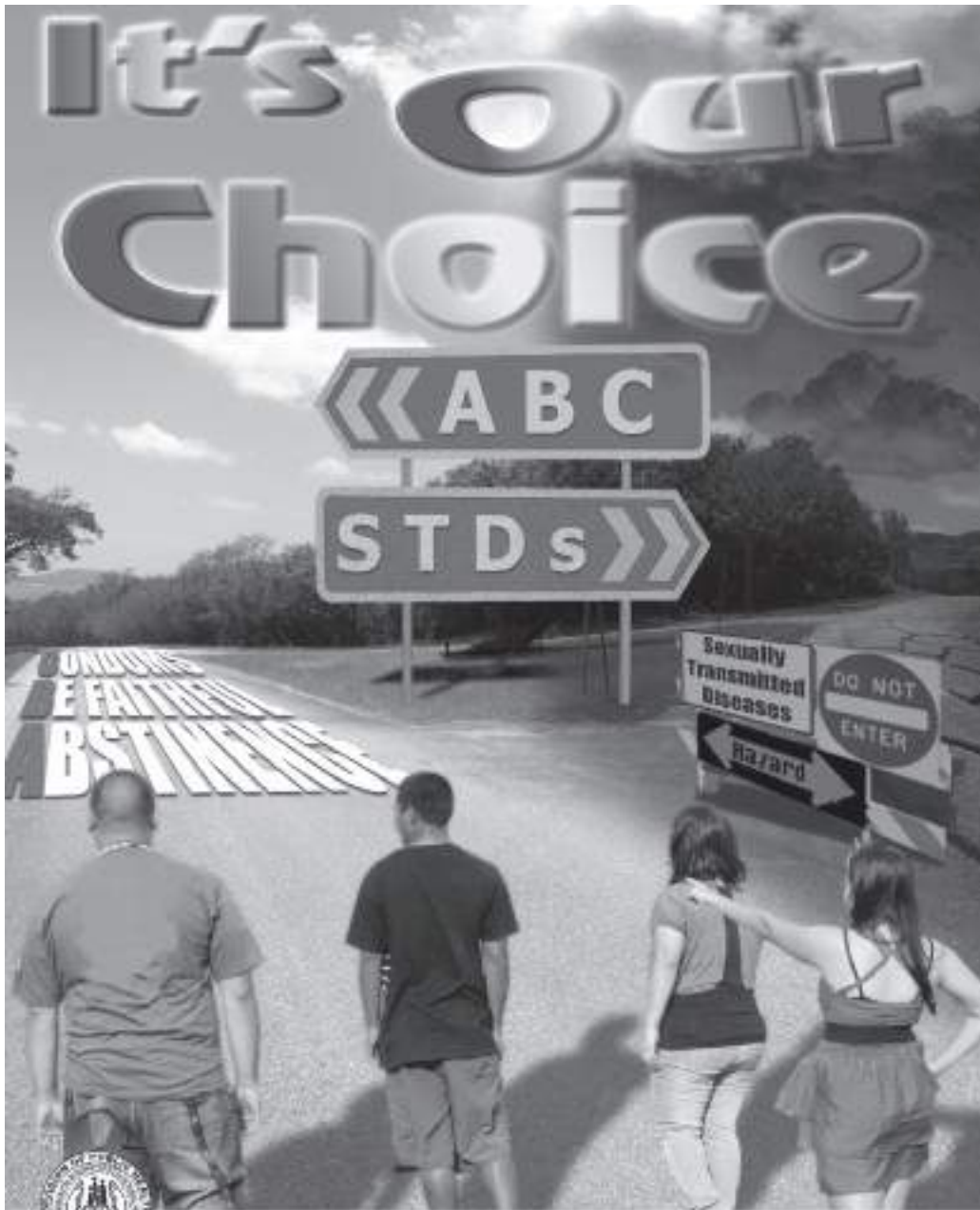


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All you need to do is request this professional service from the CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation Program and is free of charge to eligible small employers in the general construction, employer provided housing and other industries. Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), in partnership with the CNMI, designed and funded this program to provide expert advice to high hazard small business that want help to establish a safe and healthful working and living condition.

No Citations are issued and No Penalties are proposed. CNMI-OSHA ON-SITE Consultation is a confidential service. What is the catch? The employer must correct all serious hazards by the agreed upon correction date.

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This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Stem-cell setback

A glimmer of hope among those with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes and other ailments that might be relieved with new treatments derived from embryonic stem cells was dimmed this week by a federal judge, whose injunction on federal funding for such research could not only jeopardize American medical science but the health of millions of patients worldwide. But the failure isn't just judicial—the ruling was based in part on a sound interpretation of an ill-considered law imposed by Congress.

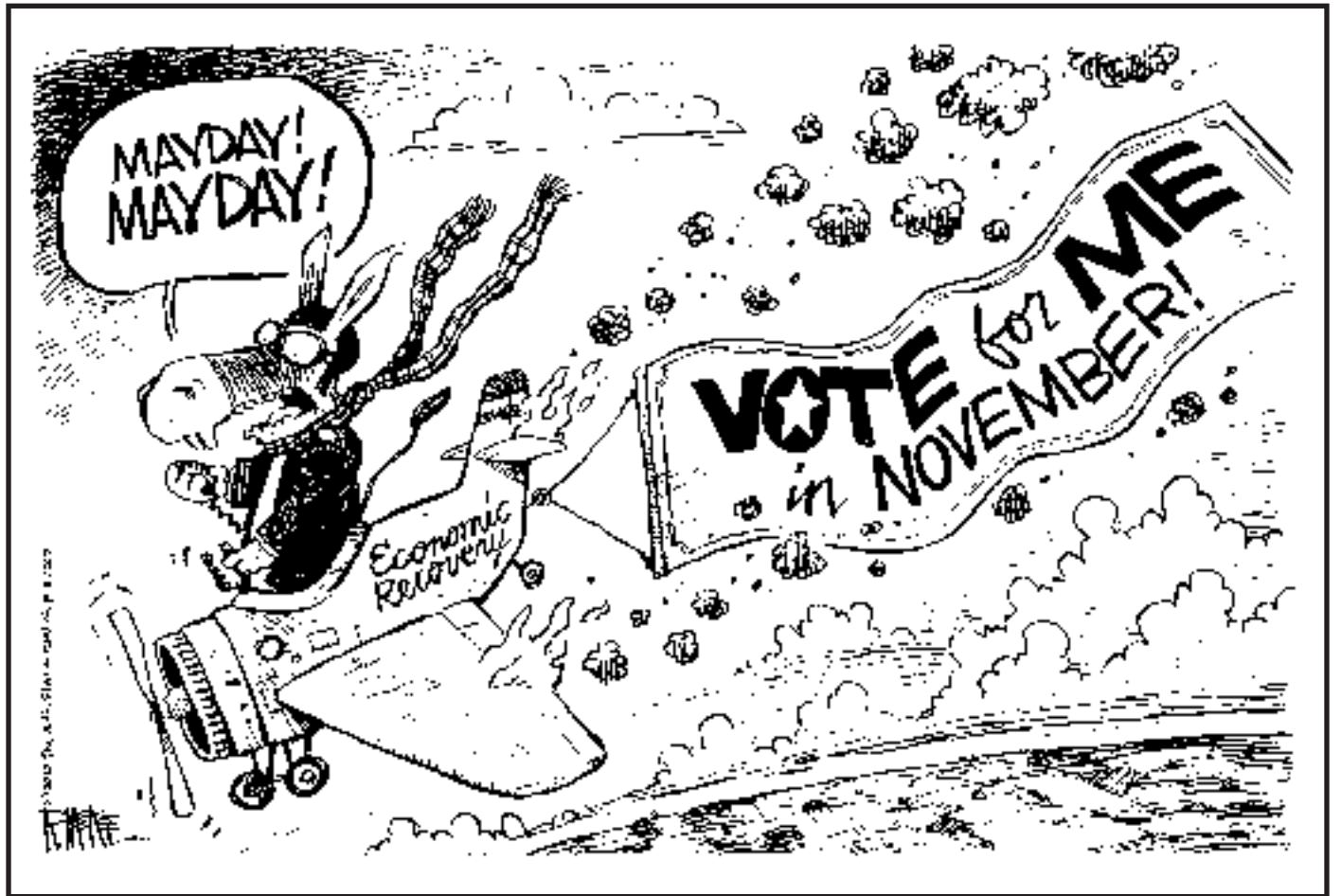
Every year since 1996, Congress has routinely attached the Dickey-Wicker Amendment to appropriations bills, thus forbidding the federal government from funding “research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed.” President George W. Bush issued an executive order interpreting this to mean that it was all right to fund research on stem-cell lines that had been created before 2001, but not after. His interpretation was broadened by President Obama, who separated the research into two parts: It would still be illegal to fund the creation of new stem-cell lines, which involves destroying embryos, but the government could award grants to researchers doing work on lines created by privately funded scientists practicing strict ethical standards.

The president's motives were admirable, but as U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth ruled Monday, Obama's order subverted the will of Congress. It takes a logical leap to separate research on stem-cell lines from the creation of those lines, sort of like saying it's OK to do illegal research on monkeys as long as somebody else catches the animals for you. It wasn't enough for Obama to issue an executive order; he also should have pressured Congress to strip out the Dickey-Wicker Amendment—or to codify his interpretation of it.

That said, Lamberth's decision to issue a preliminary injunction is puzzling. His ruling favors plaintiffs James L. Sherley and Theresa Deisher, who perform research on adult stem cells and claimed they would be harmed by Obama's order because they would have to compete for funding against researchers working with embryonic stem cells. Bizarrely, Lamberth found in their favor even though by doing so he is directly harming their competitors. The judge explained that embryonic stem-cell researchers won't lose funding because his ruling “would simply preserve the status quo.” Yet that ignores the researchers working on at least 70 new embryonic lines approved for funding under Obama, and the projected \$127 million allocated for them this year that Lamberth ordered frozen. Lamberth's blithe dismissal of disease sufferers—they won't be hurt by his injunction because the research isn't “certain” to result in cures—omits the fact that embryonic cells have great promise in treating diseases for which there is otherwise little hope, and his ruling will seriously delay the quest for cures.

The Justice Department is rightly appealing the injunction. Meanwhile, Congress should get rid of Dickey-Wicker, which polls show is opposed by a majority of Americans.

(c) 2010, Los Angeles Times



Cry, my beloved country

“Cry, my beloved country, for we have been forsaken by our leaders! Daily we are increasingly besieged by internal problems. We have an illness and refuse to correct it. We feel forgotten. Sadly they talk too often on how to benefit themselves, not the country. Why have we been abandoned? Where are our leaders’ will and courage to solve our problems? Cry, my beloved country!”

The above is a plea in the hope that you, gentlemen and ladies of the Legislature, will read and consider. Yes, the CNMI is in dire straits, but you are failing to give us guidance in this hour of need. We stand and wait for you to show us what to do to recover from this dilemma. Perhaps you do not know any better than we do as to what to do. But we become even more saddened when we learn that some of you are trying to benefit more than others at our expense.

Being a politician is a duty, not a job. As a good soldier pledges his duty to his country, each of you must pledge your duty the same way. You were chosen because we believed and trusted you. Of all the virtues, “trust” is one of the most important ones. And to betray the trust bestowed on you by us, the people, is one of the most heinous crimes you can commit against your fellow men. What is a man without trust and respect?

You are the catalyst and hope for leading us back to prosperity and dignity. Please cut out the following pledge and place it squarely in the middle of your desk and glance at it daily:

I have been chosen and given the trust to represent the people of the CNMI. My duty is to help the people. I pledge to place this duty above all else. I shall seek only what is good for the general public. I will never sacrifice my duty for personal gain—so help me God!

It amazes me when you, esteemed ladies and gentlemen, forget or do not fully grasp this basic concept. Your actions and attitudes set the tone for all of us citizens. You are the beginning of all activity of the community by the laws you create and in the manner in which you conduct yourselves. You are the backbone for economic development and for social harmony. You bring out in us either desires to do great things or to be a nation of beggars. In plain words: *You—the Legislature—possesses tremendous power over these islands and over our lives.*

I want to share the following message. As you read it remember the following words I—Integrity, C—Compassion, A—Accountability, R—Respect, E—Excellence. Together they spell I CARE.

Let's look at Integrity—Doing the right thing for the right reason and in the right way. Never acting in a way that would cause doubt or concern. Never sacrificing ethical or moral obligations. Exhibiting consistency between words and actions.

Compassion—being attuned to the personal, emotional, and spiritual needs of our citizens and each other.

Accountability—Taking full responsibility for personal decisions and actions. Being stewards of the community's resources that have been entrusted to your care. Taking ownership for the citizen's total

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



experience, not just one interaction or encounter.

These are the qualities that heroes and leaders are made of. Our country cries out to you in this time of need. Do not forsake us. You must lead us by your courageous acts. Can you look at yourself in the mirror and truly say: I AM LEADING?

If this sounds preachy, than damn it, it is! And we must be reminded of these virtues and of our responsibility. It is times such as these that bring out the true qualities in us. We trusted you and respected you. That is why we voted for you. You told us you would work in our behalf. Were they lies?

Instead of being a run-of-the-mill politician who seeks office for the thrill of it, or for the power and notoriety of it, become a statesman! The statesman's goal is to lead by examples and challenges. His duty is to country first and last. The statesman doesn't seek public office for personal gain or because it's the only job available. And he certainly is not in it for the money.

Lawrence W. Reed in his essay best explains the qualities that define a statesman: “The statesman takes time out from a life of accomplishment to serve the general welfare. He stands for a principled vision, not for what he thinks citizens will fall for. He is well informed about the vicissitudes of human nature, the lessons of history, the role of ideas, and the economics of the marketplace. He is a truth-seeker, which means he is more likely to do what is right than what may be politically popular at the moment....He elevates public discussion because he knows what he is talking about. He does not engage in class warfare or in divisive or partisan tactics that pull people apart. He does not cynically buy votes with the money his taxes take from others. He may even judge his success in office as much by how many laws he repealed as by how many he passed.”

Until all of you strive to become statesmen and stateswomen, our beloved CNMI will continue to falter. You must rise to the challenges as never before and show us by your leadership and deeds that we can revitalize ourselves. If not, we will continue to be at best a mediocre society wholly dependent upon the United States as a child to a parent.

Anything in the Legislature of worth has to be done as a unified group. This is where your statesmanship ability enters. You must persuade your peers to see things through your eyes, through discussions and compromises. Politics is not a job. It is a duty. You entered it for the service of your fellow citizens. If you truly believe

See CRY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The sons of August

The slate is fully registered and the billboards are up. Four distinguished sons of the Commonwealth are vying to be the islands' representative to the august body of 545 lawmakers who constitute the U.S. Congress. Though a government of *We the People*, we follow a republican format, so these 545 representatives are the frontline people to design constitutional programmatic directions.

The four sons have 62 remaining days to convince us that one of them be designated to play the role and function of the office in the next congressional term. Let's be clear about the Office: its status (reputation and perks) and support (cost of lunch alone can support an entry level PSS school teacher; that's a lot of Big Macs!) is nothing to sneer at, particularly for a new and small political unit like the CNMI. The office is desired and sought after with Olympic efforts. There is nothing self-effacing about it.

The assessment criteria I use for virtually anything are four categories: the objective-sensory (in this case, physicality), the reflective-emotive (empathy), the interpretive-significating (sociality), and the decisional-willful (efficiency and effectivity). These are not judgmental categories. One is not considered better than another, nor is there gradation in an idealized scale within each category. It is simply a screen I use to gauge qualitative and quantitative differences. Thus, no one of the four is either better or worse; they are just different. Frenchified, *Vive la différence*, then I choose.

On the physicality scale, which is important for stamina in a heavy workload, Babauta looks most fit. When he was guv, he jogged the pathway. I bike lagoon-side but I do not hear his stomp anymore. Back then he was more statesmanly than nimble in his cha-cha on Education Day. But fit, he was. When I see him in public these days, he looks to have retained a healthy regimen. We have no access to the candidates' medical records so we are gauging from

appearances, but by most accounts, the athletic measure would have the guv at the head of the line.

I am closest to Joe Camacho on the empathy scale. This scale is where people vote for their *primo* and follow the impulse of the heart. Our local kinship relationships, sectarian and racial divisions, appeal to this category. I would not hesitate to hold hands with Joe and a group of people around a room prior to deliberating and deciding on a project or a course of action. There is gentleness about Joe that is disarming and engaging. Joe and I share a personal connection that defies polarities. To be sure, there are various *simpatico* levels among the remaining three candidates that are attractive but Joe dominates my personal comfort zone.

Jesse Borja was chair of the organizing Board of the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance where I first encountered the workings of his mind. Voting Democrat in national elections prior to Saipan, I considered Jesse the titular head of the Party on island. Across the table at MINA, he was clearly of native intelligence and disciplined intellect. I have found him since to be cautious but deliberate, more on the conserving than the adventure pole, but in every respect, intentional, stable, and evenhanded. A candidate in the last election avers that the judge would bring a respectable mind to the halls of Congress. No quarrel on that count from this quarter.

Kilili has weathered my irreverent insistence on familiarity since we voted him into the office. "Kilili" is such a unique name, with its onomatopoeic possibilities. I sat briefly with him at the NMI Council for the Humanities board when I was on my way out to attend to my aged Dad in Hawaii, so we did not have much time to work together. But he has remained collegial without being patronizing, and to those who take exception to where he stands, conversant and dialogic without being confrontational. He has been criticized for

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



not being in sync with Capital Hill, but I am not too sure that is altogether undesirable, or a liability!

Democrats visiting the White House during ObamaCare days expected the President to reject a bill they brought, and Kilili with cohorts appended a second request that by itself would not stand much chance either. Strategically aware, however, that denial of the first might induce approval of the second to maintain goodwill and sustain cordial relations, they got their wish. The inserted proviso brought benefits to the Commonwealth.

On the efficiency/effectivity scale, I asked the question in an earlier column: With the genial, affable and productive Rep, why would I want to replace Kilili? My answer is still unequivocal. I don't. So the other candidates have 62 days to convince me if I need to change my mind.

Driving south on Chalan Pale Arnold to the intersection at Msgr. Guerrero, one is confronted by the four billboards of our candidates. There is comfort about the similarities, save one. There is a difference in stance and posture on the one *not* looking at me but inviting me to look elsewhere, as if saying, sense with me, feel with me, think with me, and together, on public service, let us work as one. *Vive le différence* gets my vote!

Letter to the Editor

Eyesores of Saipan

Dear community members: I would like for you to take a good look at this picture. I took this picture on Friday while passing by a busy tourist intersection in Garapan, located next to Winchell's Donut Shop and across She-nanigan's Restaurant.

Apparently an old, hollowed out flame tree finally gave way and fell. The large trunk of the tree was cut out and removed. But what was left for all our tourists to see was small branches and leaves from the tree, and worse yet, trash that was embedded in the stump of the tree. It looked like there was a hole in the tree and people were dumping their trash inside it for years. Evidently, it was a living trash can at one time!

I took a picture of this and thought that surely this eyesore would be cleaned up, right? As I drove past it again the next evening, the trashy tree trunk was still there, with all its disgusting trash and tree debris exposed for all our tourists to see. It bothered me so much that I felt compelled to drive home and get some trash bags and clean up the mess.

So who is responsible for all this trash? Now before we go and blame the Chinese, Filipinos, or Koreans, or other minorities, I will tell you that I bagged at least a dozen betel nut spit cans and spit bottles. Littering does not discriminate, and litterbugs come in all colors, shapes, and sizes.

I keep wondering, why wasn't this eyesore cleaned up immediately? And whoever removed the tree trunks, why didn't they take out the entire tree trunk and all its disgusting garbage, as well as all the smaller branches and leaves?

Perhaps the government was waiting on Beautify CNMI to come over and clean it. Hey, why not? They pick up everyone's trash these days. How utterly sad we have to depend largely on volunteer groups to clean the trash all over our island.

There is something seriously wrong when we feel it is acceptable



to throw trash anywhere and everywhere. It seems that people who litter were not raised properly. Perhaps they were raised by pigs instead of parents?

We Saipanese could learn a few things from our neighbors when it comes to keeping our island clean. Our neighbor islands may be hurting economically, but I am amazed at how pristine and clean Tinian and Rota continues to be. We had an event at a beach on Rota recently, and all the Rotanese went around with trash bags after and picked up all the trash before we left. We left that beach pristine clean, and it felt great! And on Tinian? They keep their

he grant you the courage to lead bravely.

The thoughts expressed above are written in behalf of the silent majority who plead with you to lead us. Hopefully these words will spur you to take heed of our pleas and act forcefully and in a positive manner.

Hopefully through your leadership, we soon can envision a better future through our trust and faith in you. Do not forsake us. Your motto must be: "I have been chosen to lead! Duty to my country comes first!"

A special word to the rest of us: We know all the lawmakers by name and many of us are related to them. It is up to us to speak to them and find out what and why they are doing. We cannot just

island so clean, they even sweep the sidewalks! Now that is an awesome display of island pride!

While our blind leaders continue to push for casinos, marijuana, handguns, and assault rifles to boost our tourist numbers and economy on Saipan, they forget that one of the most basic tenets of attracting tourists is to have a litter-free, environmentally conscious island. Leaders, do your job. Enact environmental laws and ensure that agencies are actually enforcing them. When was the last time anyone on Saipan was cited for littering? If you take a walk along Beach Road after a weekend, you will see litter strewn all over the beaches, even though there are trash cans right next to the pala palas. If the Legislature is seriously considering "revenue-generating" bills,

issuing littering citations after huge parties at beaches would be the best place to start!

We need to get away from the "If you build it, they will come" philosophy. Perhaps a more fitting philosophy for our island of Saipan would be, "If you clean it, they will come back." Come on, fellow community members. Let's have some pride and respect for our island. Keeping our island clean is everyone's business.

Ed Propst

Dandan, Saipan

CRY

From Page 10

in your duty, than live it!

When you leave office, what do you want to be remembered for? What legacy will you leave our people? What are your dreams for the CNMI? A wise man once said: "What we do for ourselves dies with us. But what we do for others, lives on forever."

May God grant you the courage to do the right thing. May He also grant you the wisdom to know what you can do and cannot do. May






blame them. We are also to blame—more than they are if we remain silent. Remember when we point a finger at someone, four fingers are pointing back at the person doing the pointing. If we want change we must demand it. Demand that they keep the promises made to us. Together we can find ways to lift ourselves out of the pitiful state we are in.

I congratulate the courage of the people who attended the rally at Capital Hill last week. Next time let us all join in. This is our country and these are our problems. We must become a part of the solutions. The Legislature is there as our voice. Let it be heard! Our country can weather our problems if we are willing to make the sacrifices. ARE WE?

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Yap	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 89 ▼ 75
Majuro	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 76

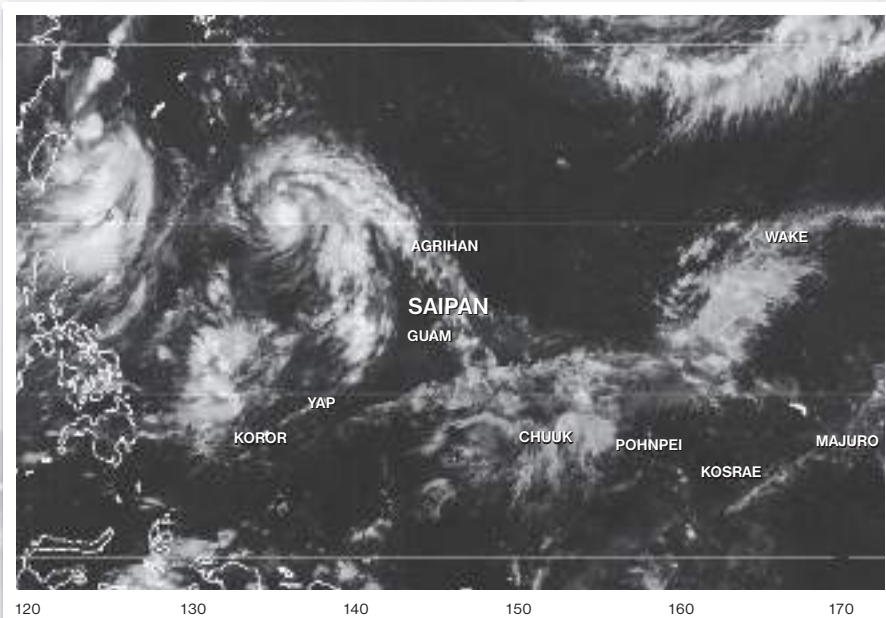
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 58 ▼ 52
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 67
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 49
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 46
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 79
New York	Sunny	▲ 90 ▼ 69
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 95 ▼ 78
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63 ▼ 51
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 76
Rome	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 64
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 52
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 62 ▼ 55
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 74
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 80
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 94 ▼ 71

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
5:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet	
11:12 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
4:53 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet	
10:34 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends southward from 25N134E through a tropical disturbance centered well northwest of the Marianas at 21N137E to end west of Yap near 9N135E. This tropical disturbance is now the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert issued by the joint typhoon warning center under WMO header WTPN21 PGTW. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are located within 170 miles of the center of the tropical disturbance. Converging winds near the trough are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Koror within 150 miles of a line from 9N130E to 13N136E and also northeast of Yap between 12N and 16N from 139E to 142E. A surface trough stretches southward from 13N153E through a weak circulation centered at 9N152E to end at 3N150E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found over Chuuk between 6N and 13N from 147E to 156E. An upper-level trough extends southwestward from a low centered west of Wake Island at 20N162E. Upper-level divergence southeast of the trough is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Pohnpei within 75 miles of a line from 13N161E to 15N164E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:28 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:49 PM	10:08 AM
Tuesday	10:35 PM	11:08 AM
Wednesday	11:26 PM	11:55 AM
Thursday		12:52 PM
Friday	12:21 AM	1:49 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 29, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA				NAGOYA-SAIPAN			
DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily	DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT				via NGO
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO	DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
				PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
							via GUM
				C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
				C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
							via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS**MRCDC Saipan committee meeting today**

The Saipan Island Committee of the Marianas Resource Conservation & Development Council will hold a meeting Today, Aug. 30, 5pm-6pm, at the Natural Resources Conservation Service Office in Garapan, on Beach Road. The meeting agenda will include completion of the Beach Road solar restroom project, and brainstorming/ranking of proposed new RC&D projects for the island of Saipan. The public is invited and encouraged to attend and participate. For more information, contact Carl Castro, Saipan Island Committee chairman, at carlcastro@gmail.com or 287-5697. For information on special accommodations for disability, call (671) 472-7447. **(PR)**

15 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged 15 beach sites on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

The affected sites are the Tanapag Meeting Hall, DPW channel bridge, South Puerto Rico dump, Smiling Cove Marina, American Memorial Park, Hafa-Adai Hotel, Hafa-Adai drainage, Garapan Fishing Dock, Garapan Beach, Garapan Beach drainage, San Jose Beach, Saipan World Resort, Saipan Grand Hotel, Community School Beach and Chalan Kanoa Dist. 2 drainage.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the

CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

Water samples are taken from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Wednesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

Two Tinian beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has raised the red flag on Unai Masalok and Leprosarium beaches on Tinian and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these sites for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations were found to contain concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

Samples of marine recreational and storm drainage water were taken from 10 locations on Tinian. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. **(DEQ)**

Military training on FDM, Warning Area-517

The U.S. Air Force and Navy will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Aug. 30-Sept. 2, from 9am to 8pm. The Air Force will conduct training on Warning Area-517 Aug. 30-Sept. 3, from 7am to midnight.

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from these areas during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the

training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. **(USN)**

Hopwood's important dates to remember

■ Aug. 30: Mandatory 7th & 8th & parents orientation from 8am to 10am at the stage area.

■ Aug. 31: Teachers' Tea Party orientation for all newly hired teachers at Aqua Resort at 8am-11am.

■ Aug. 30-31: Special education training for all affected teachers at World Resort at 8am-4:30pm.

■ Sept. 1-3: All HJHS staff orientation and in-service training at 8am -12pm. After, teachers are expected to prepare for the opening and others.

For more information, contact the school at 237-3421 or

237-3395. **(PR)**

Int'l Coastal Cleanup this September

Join the entire Commonwealth for the 25th annual International Coastal Cleanup on Sept. 24, Friday, or Sept. 25, Saturday. To sign-up for the event, complete the sign-up sheet and fax it to Rachel Zuercher, Coastal Resources Management, at 664-8315. For more information, call 664-8305 or email - rachel.zuercher@crm.gov.mp. **(PR)**

Calling all CNMI artists

Registration is now open (first-come, first-served basis) for the first 30 visual and traditional CNMI artists who wish to participate in the Guam Micronesian Fair, which will be held at the Ypao beach in Guam on Oct. 15-17, 2010. Participants must be CNMI registered artists under the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

For more information, call the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture at (670) 322-9982/83, fax at (670)322-9028, or email parkeryobei@gmail.com. **(PR)**

Registration for Pacifika Arts Exhibit

Registration is ongoing for those who wish to participate in the Cultural Heritage and Pacifika Arts Exhibit at the Joeten Kiyu Public Library, set from Sept. 1, 2010, to Oct. 1, 2010. This exhibit is open to all artists and art collectors who want to display or sell their arts and crafts. This exhibit is also dedicated to the late Dr. Mau Pius Pailug, the great traditional navigator, Archives, articles, and DVD shows about Dr. Pailug will be featured during this monthlong exhibit. Deadline to register is Aug. 27, 2010.

For more information, call the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture at (670) 322-9982/83, fax at (670)322-9028, or email parkeryobei@gmail.com. **(PR)**

Class schedule distribution at MHS

The Marianas High School will distribute all class schedules on the first day of classes on Sept. 7 during homeroom period. Student homeroom listing will be posted around the campus and main office by last names. Homeroom starts at 8am and school ends at 3pm. Other school procedures and requirements will be shared during homeroom

orientation. Visit the school for new registration or new enrollment requirements. **(PR)**

SAES orientation schedule

San Antonio Elementary School would like to inform the public that its kindergarten orientation will be held today, Friday, Aug. 27, 2010, at 5pm in the SAES cafeteria. All parents of kindergarten students must be present to receive important information. Orientation for 1st-6th grade will be held on the following days and times:

Sept. 7, 2010:

4th Graders, 4-5pm

5th grader, 5-6pm

6th grader, 6-7pm

Sept. 8, 2010



1st grader, 4-5pm

2nd grader, 5-4pm

3rd grader, 6-7pm

ChaCha Ocean View student orientation

The ChaCha Ocean View Junior High School will be having an orientation for 6th grade students on Sept. 2, 2010, from 9:30 to 10:30am in the cafeteria. For 7th and 8th grade students, orientation will be on Sept. 3, 2010, from 9:30 to 10:30am in the cafeteria. Call the school at 237-3921 or 664-4400 if you have any question or comments. **(PR)**


BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Belated happy birthday greeting to Ruzzel Agulto, who celebrated hers on Aug. 28, 2010! Hope you enjoyed your special day and may you have many more birthdays to come! Greetings come from Randall, Harland, friends, and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greeting go out to a wonderful woman, Mrs. Carmen Elameto-Lizama! Wishing you a memorable birthday filled with lots of love and many more of God's blessings. We love you, Ming! Greetings come from all your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-10-2302

For: Representation, Promotion and Public Relations Services for the Korea Market


Closing Date: September 30, 2010 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, August 31, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:


AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes (June 16, 2010)
- II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS**
 1. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) Right of Entry
 2. US Military request to use the Rota International Airport Runway
 3. Fiscal Year 2011 Budget
 4. Change Order: SIA Apron Conversion Phase III
 5. Amendment: SIA ARFF Training Facility Amendment No. 2 for AECOM
 6. Change Order: Tinian Airport Rotating Beacon for FPA Pacific Corporation
 7. Change Order: Port of Saipan Generator/Building Project
 8. Change Order: SIA Public Address System
 9. Amendment: SIA Runway Rehabilitation CM Amendment No. 1 for H-E
 10. Supplemental Budget Request: Repair of Loading Bridges 2 and 3
 11. Supplemental Budget Request: SSFM (A&E/CM) Services – SIA PAPI System and SIA Departure Building Crack Investigation
 12. Assignment of Shell Marianas Lease to IP&E
 13. Proposal from S. Markos for South Seaplane Ramp
 14. Request from Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino re: Accounts Receivables for Tinian Shipping
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ **JOSE R. LIFOFOI**
Chairman, Board of Directors

August 24, 2010




PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC, Division 9, §9910, Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Workers' Compensation Commission/Group Health & Life Insurance Trust Fund, are hereby giving notice that the Board of Trustees will hold its Regular meeting Thursday, September 2, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Rota Mayor's Office Conference Room, Rota.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call
 - C. Adoption of Agenda
 - D. Adoption of Minutes of Meetings
 1. June 11, 2010
 2. July 1, 2010
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. REPORTS**
 - A. Report of the Chairman
 1. Communication
 - B. Report of the Administrator/Deputy Administrator
 1. Communication
 2. Accounting Report
 - a) NMI Retirement Fund
 - b) GHLTF
 - c) WCC
 3. Other Administrative Status/Updates
 - C. Reports of the Committees
 1. Operations, Personnel & Review
 2. Finance & Investment
 3. Special
 - D. Report of the Investment Director
 1. Status of Investments
 2. Report of the Housing Loan Program
 - E. Report of the Internal Auditor
- IV. LEGAL MATTERS**
 - A. Reports of the Legal Counsels and Administrative Hearing Officer
 1. Report of the Board Counsel
 2. Report of the Hearing Officer
- V. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Municipality of Tinian and Aguigan
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. External Auditor Report Status Update
 - B. Proposed Action Plan Fund Management
 - C. FY 2011 Operational Cost
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VIII. MISCELLANEOUS**
 - A. Announcements
 - B. Next Meeting
 - C. Adjournment

/s/ **SIXTO K. IGISOMAR**
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

MVA-RFP-10-2304

For: Happy Children In Paradise Campaign Saipan-da Backpacks


Closing Date: September 14, 2010 Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the **Marianas Visitors Authority** office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by emailing the MVA at mva@mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLAN
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID

ITB10-DOL-156

BID SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 09, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“GENERAL CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, SAIPAN”

COPIES OF SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

LOCAL PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/S/ **GIL M. SAN NICHOLAS**
SECRETARY OF DOL

/S/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

Business

Justice Dept signs off on United-Continental deal

» Merger currently expected to close by Oct. 1

United Airlines and Continental Airlines said yesterday they have been notified by the Antitrust Division of the U.S. De-

partment of Justice of the termination of its Hart-Scott-Rodino Act review and the closing of its investigation of the airlines' pending merger.

"We are pleased to have achieved this critical milestone and look forward to our respective stockholders' votes next

month, following which we expect to be on track to close our merger by October 1st," said Glenn Tilton, UAL Corp. chairman, president and CEO. "The combination of United and Continental will create a world class airline, which will deliver an industry leading network for our

customers and the communities we serve, career opportunities for our people, and value and return for our stockholders."

"The completion of DOJ's review is an important step on our journey of creating the world's leading airline, benefiting our customers, co-workers, communities and stockholders," said Jeff Smisek, Continental's chairman, president and CEO. "The DOJ's decision permits us to clear one of the last regulatory hurdles to closing our merger."

Continental and United also

acknowledged the efforts of the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration as the companies work through the merger process. In addition, Continental and United remain engaged in discussions with the state attorneys general who are reviewing the merger, and hope to conclude those discussions expeditiously with a positive outcome.

Continental and United announced an all-stock merger of equals on May 3, 2010, and currently expect the transaction

to close by Oct. 1, 2010, subject to stockholder approvals and customary closing conditions. Both companies have scheduled special stockholder meetings on Sept. 17, 2010, for approval of the merger.

United and Continental received clearance from the European Commission on the airlines' proposed merger in July, which noted its investigation found the transaction would not raise competitive concerns in Europe or on trans-Atlantic routes. (PR)



United Airlines and Continental Airlines unveil their new name and livery signifying the merger of the two airline companies.

Financing secured for JFK

On Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2010, the Series 2010 JFK Certificates of Participation were priced in an effort to take advantage of favorable market conditions. The pricing, which was originally scheduled to take place on either Aug. 25 or 26, was accelerated due to a very strong bond market that created a window of opportunity.

The \$65.7 million JFK COP offering, which was a non-investment grade credit, generated much wider investor demand than originally an-

ticipated, with several first time Guam investors participating in the JFK COP transaction. The marketing efforts of the JFK finance team included several extensive conversations with investors over the last few days, which assisted in generating broadened investor participation. Ultimately, approximately 50 investors participated in the offering, which was close to the number of investors secured for the Guam government's investment grade Section 30 offering sold last year.

The JFK COPs were heavily oversubscribed in all maturities offered, with over \$810 million in orders placed. In particular, the 2040 term bond was oversubscribed by as much as 14.5 times the available amount of COPs in that specific maturity. The final aggregate yield for the COPs was 6.88 percent, well below the maximum rate cap of 8.50 percent.

The estimated annual Base Rental Payments for the JFK offering, when combined with Additional Rental Payments, totals approximately \$6.7 million, which is below the \$6.9 million annual cap. (PR)

Medicare expands coverage to help smokers quit

WASHINGTON (AP)—They've lived with the health warnings about smoking for much of their lives and doubtless seen the ill effects on friends, relatives and even themselves, yet about 4.5 million older people in the U.S. keep on lighting up. Medicare is finally catching up to most private insurers by providing counseling for anyone on the program who's trying to kick the habit.

Dr. Barry Straube, Medicare's chief medical officer, says it's never too late to quit, even for lifelong smokers.

"The elderly can respond to smoking cessation counseling even if they have been smoking for 30 years or more," says Straube. "We do know we can

see a reduction in the death rate and complications from smoking-related illnesses." Not only cancer, heart disease and lung problems, which can kill, but also gastric reflux, osteoporosis and other ailments that undermine quality of life.

Smoking-related illnesses cost Medicare tens of billions a year. Straube cites a two-decade estimate of \$800 billion, from 1995 through 2015.

Medicare already covers drugs used to help smokers quit, as well as counseling for those who have developed a smoking-related illness. But starting immediately, the program will expand the benefit to cover up to eight counseling sessions a year for people who want to quit.

Next year, such counseling will

be free, under a provision in President Barack Obama's health care law that eliminates co-payments for preventive services.

Older smokers often don't get as much attention from doctors as do younger ones. "They just figure, 'Well, it's too late,'" said Straube, that the damage is already done. That may start to change now.

About one in 10 seniors smoke, compared with one in five people among the U.S. population as a whole. It turns out that smokers age 65 and older present a medical paradox.

Many started when it was fashionable to light up. They are more likely than younger smokers to be seriously hooked on nicotine and less likely to attempt quitting.

USDA offers reimbursement program for NMI, Guam farmers and ranchers

MAITE, Guam—Applications are currently being accepted for the Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program through Sept. 10, 2010. Commercial agricultural producers in the CNMI and Guam are urged to contact the Guam County Farm Service Agency at their earliest convenience to process their application.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's American farmers and ranchers outside the 48 contiguous United States that experience high transportation costs will soon see relief through funding authorized through the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill).

The Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers assists farmers and ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii, and areas including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands, Federated States

of Micronesia, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Republic of Palau who paid to transport either an agricultural commodity or an input used to produce an agricultural commodity.

"The deadline to apply is Sept. 10, so there is a limited window of opportunity for our producers to apply for this program," said Guam and CNMI county executive director Tom Camacho. "The application process could be time consuming as most of our farmers and ranchers are small scale family owned farms; as such we might be looking at hundreds of receipts which they must separate themselves. Each receipt must be categorized due to the different reimbursement rates set by regulation. I encourage all producers to contact the USDA FSA office immediately and not wait for the Sept. 10 deadline to apply."

Applicants might be able to claim supplies that were purchased locally due to the hidden shipping fees.

Sept. 10, 2010 is the deadline for applicants to file their RTCP application with their local FSA county office, and applicants will also have until Nov. 1, 2010, to provide supporting documentation of actual costs of transporting agricultural inputs and commodities in fiscal year 2010 to the FSA county office.

The Guam County FSA Office is working with the following local CNMI Offices:

■ Rota, NMC-CREES- Alejandro Badilles, extension agent, (670) 532-9513

■ Tinian, DLNR—Richard Farrell, resident director, (670) 433-1400

■ Saipan, Division of Agriculture, Kagman — George Mosses, (670) 256-3319

Or producers can contact the Guam FSA County Office directly at 670-236-0896

For more information on the new RTCP program, farmers and ranchers in the eligible areas can visit their local FSA county office or www.fsa.usda.gov/pricesupport. (USDA)

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Admin official: FDA to inspect large egg farms

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration is planning to inspect all of the country's largest egg farms before the end of next year following the massive recall of tainted eggs linked to a salmonella outbreak that has sickened as many as 1,500 people. An Obama administration official says inspectors will visit about 600 large egg farms that produce 80 percent of the nation's eggs. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not yet been announced. This will be the first government effort to inspect large egg farms, as most of them have gone largely uninspected for decades.

China, Japan talks to strengthen economic ties

BEIJING (AP)—The economies of China and Japan are interdependent and their close cooperation has helped two-way trade rebound above the levels before the world financial crisis, a top Chinese economic official said Saturday. Vice Premier Wang Qishan made the remarks to delegates from the two countries—the world's second and third largest economies—who were

meeting in Beijing to discuss ways to recover from the crisis and foster regional cooperation. "The economies of both countries highly rely on each other. Economic and trade cooperation have been improved in a firm manner. Bilateral trade has recovered rapidly and has exceeded levels from before the financial crisis," Wang said in opening the annual China-Japan economic dialogue.

Putin visits site of Russia's new launch center

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia will launch its manned space missions from a new center in the Far East in 2018, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Saturday, as the country seeks greater independence for its space program. Putin made the comments as he inaugurated the start of construction for the new cosmodrome at the former missile defense base of Vostochny, outside the town of Ulgorsk, 3,600 miles (5,800 kilometers) east of Moscow, and a few hundred miles away from China. Russia currently uses the Soviet-built Baikonur launch facility in Kazakhstan for all of its manned space missions and other commercial launches as well as a smaller center in northern Russia for military satellite launches.

Nation

5 Calif. inmates shot during riot, 2 others hurt

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Prison guards shot into a crowd to stop 200 rioting inmates at California's Folsom State Prison, wounding five, authorities said Saturday.

Another two inmates were injured by other prisoners during Friday's riot, which began at about 7 p.m. in the main exercise yard and ended after 30 minutes. Prison spokesman Lt. Antho-

ny Gentile said officers fired after other efforts to break up the riot failed.

"We tried to control the situation with chemical agents dispersed over the crowd," Gentile said Saturday. "We fired several rounds of rubber bullets and that didn't stop them from fighting."

None of the inmates suffered life-threatening injuries, and none of the 45 to 50 officers who responded

were hurt.

All seven of the injured inmates were listed in stable condition late Saturday, according to Gentile.

The prison, made famous in the Johnny Cash song "Folsom Prison Blues," could remain on lockdown for the next several weeks during an investigation. That means inmates won't be allowed to have visitors, use the exer-

cise yard or attend work training, Gentile said.

The prison has been hit with sporadic violence in its 130-year existence.

Most recently, eight inmates were injured in October after a fight involving about 120 prisoners erupted in a dining hall at the prison.

In April 2002, 24 inmates and one guard were injured during a riot.

Opened in 1880, Folsom is California's second oldest prison, primarily housing medium security inmates. The prison also operates a minimum-security unit and a transitional treatment facility.

The facility's website said it has 3,540 inmates and a custody staff of 643. It is located about 20 miles east of Sacramento.

La. residents rid grief in symbolic Katrina burial

CHALMETTE, La. (AP)—Hundreds of mourners dropped notes, cards and letters—many of them stained with tears—into a steel-gray casket on Saturday in a symbolic burial of Hurricane Katrina.

One letter written by a child in red crayon said: "Go away from us." Another note remembered one of the 1,800 victims of Katrina: "R.I.P. Gloria, I will always love you." The casket, along with some of the anger, grief and frustration, was later interred under an appropriately dark sky as rain pounded umbrellas.

"I asked for no more suffering, for everything to come back to where it was," Walter Gifford, 47, said of his note. He rebuilt his home and moved back to the area near New Orleans. "I ask for the sadness for so many to end."

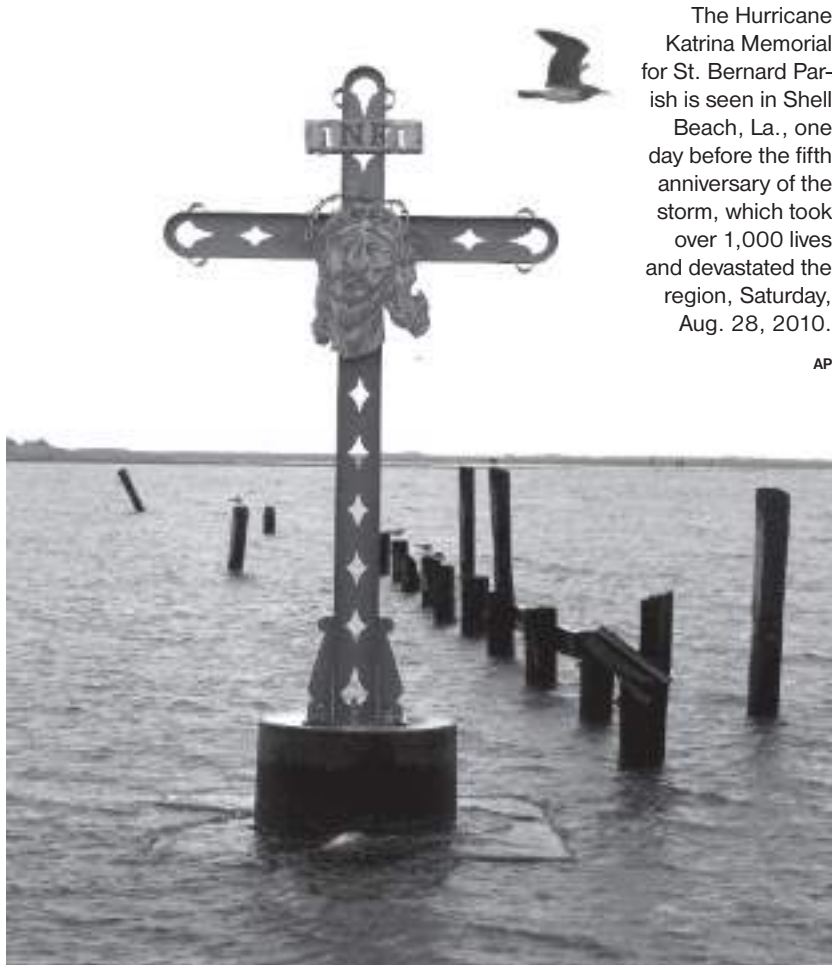
The church that celebrated the Mass, Our Lady of Prompt Succor, was flooded five years ago just like all but two buildings in St. Bernard Parish.

"I cried a lot while I wrote my letter," said Nancy Volpe, 61, who moved back into her house in November. "But I'm finally home. I can't tell you how much better I know the meaning of that word—home."

When the casket was finally closed, people applauded.

"I've been to many funerals," said Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond. "But I'm sure this is the first time I've heard applause when they closed the casket."

Funeral director Floyd W. Herty Jr.



The Hurricane Katrina Memorial for St. Bernard Parish is seen in Shell Beach, La., one day before the fifth anniversary of the storm, which took over 1,000 lives and devastated the region, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010.

AP

planned the service.

"I've been a funeral director all my adult life, and I know the power the service has to let people begin healing," Herty said.

The funeral was one of dozens of events planned to mark the fifth anniversary of the massive storm that wrecked New Orleans, south Louisiana and the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Beck: Help us restore traditional American values

WASHINGTON (AP)—Conservative commentator Glenn Beck and tea party champion Sarah Palin appealed Saturday to a vast, predominantly white crowd on the National Mall to help restore traditional American values and honor Martin Luther King's message. Civil rights leaders who accused the group of hijacking King's legacy held their own rally and march.

While Beck billed his event as non-political, conservative activists said their show of strength was a clear sign that they can swing elections because much of the country is angry with what many

voters call an out-of-touch Washington.

Palin told the tens of thousands who stretched from the marble steps of the Lincoln Memorial to the grass of the Washington Monument that calls to transform the country weren't enough. "We must restore America and restore her honor," said the former Alaska governor, echoing the name of the rally, "Restoring Honor."

Palin, the GOP vice presidential nominee in 2008 and a potential White House contender in 2012, and Beck repeatedly cited King and made references to the Founding Fathers. Beck

put a heavy religious cast on nearly all his remarks, sounding at times like an evangelical preacher.

"Something beyond imagination is happening," he said. "America today begins to turn back to God."

Beck exhorted the crowd to "recognize your place to the creator. Realize that he is our king. He is the one who guides and directs our life and protects us." He asked his audience to pray more. "I ask, not only if you would pray on your knees, but pray on your knees but with your door open for your children to see," he said.



A grove of sixteen swamp white oaks is planted at the National September 11 Memorial, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010 in New York.

AP

9 years later, signs of life emerge at ground zero

NEW YORK (AP)—After nearly nine years, life is returning to ground zero in a tangible way.

Crews Saturday began planting 16 swamp white oaks at the World Trade Center site. They are the first of nearly 400 trees to be planted around the eight-acre memorial to the nearly 2,800 people were killed when terrorists attacked the twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001.

The trees will dot a cobblestone plaza surrounding two huge pools built on the footprints of the destroyed towers.

Joe Daniels, president of the 9/11 Memorial Foundation, was on hand at the site to help with the planting. He said designers of the memorial envisioned a lush and quiet green space that would bring solace to visitors.

"When people come up to the pools and see the names and be under this canopy, this forest, it will be a very peaceful environment," Daniels said.

Cultivated for four years at a nursery in Millstone, N.J., the 16 trees were loaded onto eight tractor-trailers at midnight Friday for the 35-mile trip to Manhattan. Several were planted overnight and into Saturday morning on the western side of the memorial plaza.

The memorial plaza will essentially become a rooftop garden, built atop the deep chasm left by the destroyed

towers. It will cover the museum commemorating the 2001 attacks, commuter train platforms and a parking garage that are being built as far as 70 feet below ground.

The trees were irrigated and fertilized for four years at 15-acre nursery in New Jersey. Daniels said the swamp white oaks were selected for their beauty and their ability to withstand Manhattan's cold, snowy winters and steamy summers.

The trees come from New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C.—the places where the attacks hit. They were about 25 feet tall when first planted and are expected to soar to 60 to 80 feet high.

Once they are planted, an arborist will work full-time to prevent the construction site's daily dust and clutter from damaging the oaks.

An elaborate subterranean irrigation system, with individual tubes running to each tree, will water and fertilize the grove. The trees' condition, soil moisture and temperature can be monitored remotely through sensors embedded into their root balls.

"Our expectations are we will have 100 percent survival of the trees," said Tom Cox, CEO of Environmental Design, the Houston company that has cared for the trees and ferried them to the trade center site.



ACROSS THE NATION

69 cars involved in Phoenix interstate accidents

PHOENIX (AP)—Sixty-nine vehicles were involved in at least three separate collisions on an interstate near Phoenix's downtown area Saturday evening, injuring several people, authorities said. The accidents caused two serious injuries, and six people

in total were taken to area hospitals, Phoenix Fire Department spokesman Jonathan Jacobs said. Several others were treated at the scene with minor injuries. The state's Department of Public Safety said a five-mile stretch of westbound Interstate 10 has been closed since about 6:30 p.m. PDT. The roadway was blocked off at

Washington Street near downtown Phoenix and several key onramps are also closed, the department said. A DPS duty officer said the cause of the crashes still hadn't been determined.

W.Va. governor wins Dem primary for US Senate

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP)—

Popular Gov. Joe Manchin won the Democratic nomination Saturday and will face GOP primary winner and wealthy businessman John Raese in the race to fill the Senate seat vacated by the late Robert C. Byrd. Raese defeated a crowded field of Republicans and becomes part of the GOP quest to dismantle the Democratic Senate

majority as high unemployment and the slow economic recovery take a toll on their political prospects this fall. In Louisiana, scandal-tainted Republican U.S. Sen. David Vitter easily beat two little-known challengers and will meet Democratic Rep. Charlie Melancon, who won his party's primary, in November.

Asia

Family buries RP hostage-taker

TANAUAN, Philippines (AP)—Weeping relatives and friends on Saturday buried a dismissed Philippine policeman who took a busload of Hong Kong tourists hostage and was shot in a bungled police rescue operation that left eight of the hostages dead.

About 1,000 people joined the funeral procession for Rolando Mendoza under a blazing afternoon sun in his hometown of Tanauan city, south of Manila.

Many wept and Mendoza's widow wailed loudly as pallbearers carried his white casket out of a church, his body dressed in his police uniform.

Mendoza, 55, was a decorated officer once cited as one of the Philippines' 10 outstanding policemen. He was dismissed from the police force last year on charges of extortion and grave threats.

Last Monday, armed with an M-16 assault rifle and a pistol, he seized a bus carrying 20 Hong Kong tourists, a tour guide and four Filipinos to demand his reinstatement.

He released nine hostages early in the nearly 12-hour drama, but police said he shot the remaining hostages after negotiations broke down and police assaulted the bus. Eight hostages were killed and seven

were rescued.

"When he took hostages, all his decorations lost their meaning," Philippine National Police spokesman Agrimero Cruz said Friday.

The incident enraged China, whose foreign minister urged Manila to complete an investigation as soon as possible.

President Benigno Aquino III has "begged for understanding" and ordered a thorough investigation. He also promised to punish those responsible.

China expressed strong indignation on Friday after the Philippine flag was placed on Mendoza's coffin, saying he did not deserve the honor.

Afghan militants storm 2 NATO bases

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—U.S. and Afghan troops repelled attackers wearing American uniforms and suicide vests in a pair of simultaneous assaults on NATO bases near the Pakistani border, including one where seven CIA employees died in a suicide attack last year.

The raids before dawn Saturday appear part of an insurgent strategy to step up attacks

in widely scattered parts of the country as the U.S. focuses its resources on the battle around the Taliban's southern birthplace of Kandahar.

Also Saturday, three more American service members were killed—two in a bombing in the south and the third in fighting in eastern Afghanistan, the U.S. command said. That brought to 38 the

number of U.S. troops killed this month—well below last month's figure of 66.

The militant assault in the border province of Khost began about 4 a.m. when dozens of insurgents stormed Forward Operating Base Salerno and nearby Camp Chapman with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons, according to NATO and Afghan police.

NKorean leader heads home from China

CHANGCHUN, China (AP)—North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il apparently headed home after a secretive and surprise trip that reportedly included a meeting with China's top leader to appeal for diplomatic and financial support for a succession plan involving his youngest son.

Reporters have followed a motorcade—apparently used by the reclusive Kim—around sev-

eral cities in northeast China. The 35-vehicle convoy accompanied by police cars with flashing lights was seen headed to the train station in Changchun on Saturday.

Kim rarely leaves North Korea and when he does he travels by special train. South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported Sunday that Kim is believed to have traveled to Yanbian, a Korean autonomous prefecture

in the far northeastern Chinese province of Jilin bordering North Korea, after leaving Changchun's railway station.

Yonhap cited an unidentified diplomatic source in Yanji, capital of Yanbian, as saying that Yanbian's local government was busy preparing to accept a visitor who it says is likely to be Kim. Yonhap said Kim has never visited Yanbian.



ASIAN BRIEFS

China fire kills 9, injures 9

BEIJING (AP)—State media say a fire has killed nine people and injured nine others at a real estate office in northeastern China. The official Xinhua News Agency says the fire broke out Saturday afternoon at a sales office in Shenyang in Liaoning province. An official with the Shenyang fire department confirmed the fire but would not give any other details. Xinhua says the dead and injured were home buyers and sales assistants.

Pakistan security forces end hostage drama

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Security forces stormed an army intelligence office in northwestern Pakistan on Saturday and freed two people who had been taken hostage by escaped militant prisoners, officials said. There were no fatalities in the operation and the militants surrendered, said Liaqat Ali Khan, a top police official. He said the trouble began as about three or four militants were being moved inside the offices. One guard was injured in the shooting.

Vietnam to release more than 17,000 prisoners

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Vietnam's president has ordered more than 17,000 prisoners freed as part of the country's annual National Day amnesty, officials said Saturday. Twenty of those to be released have been charged with national se-

curity crimes, but no high-profile pro-democracy dissidents were included. Several were ethnic minorities from the restive Central Highlands bordering Cambodia. Vietnam has been criticized by the United States and European Union for jailing political and religious dissidents. The Communist county does not tolerate any form of protest and often uses national security laws to convict those deemed a threat. Of the 17,210 inmates being freed, 37 are foreigners from a number of countries, including France, the United States and Canada. The release will begin Sunday to commemorate National Day on Sept. 2.

Another levee breach threatens south Pakistan city

THATTA, Pakistan (AP)—Floodwaters made another break Saturday in the levees protecting a southern Pakistani city, as thousands of residents fled for high ground and left the city nearly empty. Both sides of the main road were crowded with people from Thatta and nearby flooded villages fleeing the floodwaters. Many had spent the night sleeping out in the open. Hadi Baksh Kalhor, a Thatta disaster management official, said more than 175,000 people had left the city, leaving few behind. Some are heading for nearby towns or cities, he said, with thousands also headed for the high ground of an ancient graveyard for Muslim saints. He said the latest levee breach, which happened early Saturday, could leave the outskirts of Thatta flooded by later in the day.

World



AP

An Iraqi man raises his hands as an Iraqi police officer conducts a body search at a check point in central Baghdad, Iraq, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010.

Iraq on highest alert for attacks

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's prime minister put his nation on its highest level of alert for terror attacks, warning of plots to sow fear and chaos as the U.S. combat mission in the country formally ends on Tuesday.

The Iraqi security forces who will be left in charge have been hammered by bomb attacks, prompting fears of a new insurgent offensive and criticism of the government's preparedness to protect its people. Still, President Barack Obama left no doubt Saturday in his weekly radio address that the U.S. is sticking to its promise to pull out of Iraq despite the uptick in violence.

In a statement to state-run television, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said Iraqi intelligence indicated an al-Qaida front group and members of Saddam Hussein's outlawed Baath party are collaborating to launch attacks "to create fear and chaos and kill more innocents."

"We direct the Iraqi forces,

police and army and other security forces, to take the highest alert and precautionary measures to foil this criminal planning," al-Maliki said in the statement issued late Friday.

A senior Iraqi intelligence official on Saturday said security forces believe suicide bombers have entered the country with plans to strike unspecified targets in Baghdad by month's end. The official did not know how many bombers or where they would attack, and spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

Obama, meanwhile, used his weekly radio address to reaffirm his campaign promise to end the war in Iraq and refocus on Afghanistan as home to the top threats against America.

"The bottom line is this: the war is ending," Obama said from the Massachusetts island retreat of Martha's Vineyard, where he was on vacation. "Like any sovereign, independent nation, Iraq is free to chart its own course."

Al-Maliki said insurgents

would try to exploit widespread frustration with years of frequent power outages and problems with other public services by staging riots and attacks on government offices.

Hours after his remarks, the al-Qaida-linked Islamic State of Iraq claimed responsibility for more than two dozen bombings and shootings across the nation this week that killed 56 people—more than half of them Iraqi soldiers and policemen.

In a statement posted on a militant website Saturday, the group said the coordinated attacks targeted the "headquarters and centers and security barriers for the army and the apostate police."

The prime minister seemed to recognize that security forces alone would not be able to stop the attacks, and he appealed to citizens to be vigilant.

"We call on the nation to have open eyes to monitor the movements of those terrorists and keep such criminal gangs from halting the progress of our nation."



WORLD BRIEFS

Rwanda threatens to withdraw peacekeepers

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Rwanda has threatened to withdraw its troops from United Nations peacekeeping operations if the world body publishes a report accusing the Rwandan army of committing possible genocide in Congo in the 1990s, Rwanda's foreign minister says in a letter sent to the U.N. A draft of the report leaked this week accuses Rwandan troops and rebel allies tied to the current Congolese president of slaughtering tens of thousands of Hutus in Congo. The attacks allegedly came two years after those same troops stopped Rwanda's 1994 genocide that killed more than half a million Tutsis and some moderate Hutus.

Venezuelans protest against unchecked violence

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Opponents of President Hugo Chavez marched through Caracas on Saturday to protest rampant violence that

claims thousands of lives each year in Venezuela and has been worsening in the past decade. Protesters beat on drums and held signs with images of skulls and crossbones and slogans such as "Enough" and "No more deaths." Journalists estimated the crowd that marched through scattered rains at roughly 1,500. A hearse rolled past with a sign saying, "You could be next."

Mexico launches federal probe of migrant massacre

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Federal authorities said Saturday they will take over the investigation into the massacre of 72 migrants at a ranch in northern Mexico because evidence suggests drug traffickers were responsible. They also said an Ecuadorean migrant who was the lone survivor has refused Mexico's offer of a humanitarian visa and will return to his native country. Government security spokesman Alejandro Poire said drug cartel involvement would make the killings a federal crime.

Focus

By ADAM SCHRECK
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—The militants who carried out the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai, India, used mobile phones and other handheld gadgets to coordinate an assault that left 166 dead.

“This is a medium, unlike Facebook or Internet chat rooms, that is very difficult to monitor,” said Christopher Davidson, a Gulf expert at Britain’s University of Durham. “Security concerns, including terror threats, are sadly being used to mask this clampdown, and the international community is buying this explanation.”

It’s a tug-of-war over data and security that finds echoes in China’s censorship fight with Google Inc., and highlights the way rapid technological change is sowing unease in countries where the unfettered flow of digital information is seen as a threat.

Like China and Iran, the UAE and Saudi Arabia actively police the Internet, blocking access to pornography and material deemed politically or morally objectionable. Neither Gulf state allows organized political

to its unfiltered Hong Kong site, where the network of mainland Chinese filters known as the “Great Firewall” don’t apply.

Leaders in the Gulf saw tensions involving free-flowing technology play out even closer to home last summer, as swelling numbers of Iranian opposition protesters angry over disputed presidential elections turned to Twitter and Facebook to rally support and get word out of clashes with police.

Weeks later, BlackBerry users in the UAE learned their country’s leading state-run phone provider had led them to unwittingly install spy software on their handheld devices, prompting an outcry from BlackBerry maker Research in Motion Ltd. The reason for the breach was never made clear.

The dispute over BlackBerrys puts the Canadian-based company at the center of an increasingly global debate over censorship and digital privacy. While it and other technology firms are accustomed to Western expectations of privacy and freedom, winning new customers in the fast-growing developing world means doing business with governments that—some more benignly than others—fear the free flow of information.

Authorities in Saudi Arabia and the UAE say BlackBerrys operate outside of existing regulations. RIM says its regulatory negotiations are private and it “cooperates with all governments with a consistent standard.” Saudi Arabia’s telecommunications regulator said Tuesday it would allow service to continue in the country for now, citing “positive developments.” It was unclear, however, whether the reprieve was permanent.

Even if the countries do gain greater access to BlackBerry data, tech experts say corporate users’ messages may still be encrypted, so it’s not clear what they’ll divine from it.

RIM’s showdown in the Gulf has prompted other countries to take a new look at BlackBerry services. India, Indonesia and Lebanon have all raised questions.

“A company like RIM really needs to think not just about the UAE or Saudi Arabia, but about their customers worldwide,” said Cindy Cohn, legal director and general counsel for digital rights group Electronic Frontier Foundation. “If BlackBerry is willing to offer backdoor access (in the Gulf), other countries are going to want that too. And at that point it’s really a race to the bottom.”

The Obama administration has voiced concerns about the pending bans, though U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton later acknowledged “there is a legitimate security concern.”

Both the UAE and Saudi Arabia—important Arab allies for the U.S.—have taken steps to curb violent extremism and crack down on terror financing. Islamic militants, an increasingly belligerent Iran and instability in Yemen, Iraq and Afghanistan are seen as potential threats.

“This is a very tough neighborhood,” said Theodore Karasik of the Institute for Near East & Gulf Military Analysis, a think tank in Dubai. “It’s very easy to criticize from the outside, but when you’re on the inside it’s an entirely different picture.”

Governments are also under pressure from conservatives who complain that youth have easy access to pornography over the Internet, and that such devices allow the circumvention of traditional Internet blocks.

Officials are reluctant to identify specific incidents where BlackBerry use could create a security risk. But frequently mentioned are reports that militants involved in the November 2008 attacks in Mumbai used mobile phones and other digital gadgets such as GPS devices.

The high-profile killing in January of a Hamas commander by a hit squad in a Dubai hotel has also left Emirati authorities on edge. Police linked Mahmoud al-Mabhouh’s death to suspects believed to be working for Israeli intelligence who used prepaid mobile phone cards to call into a “command center” abroad.

Despite the threats, some say threatening to ban features on specific devices is a step too far.

Bahrain’s foreign minister, Sheik Khaled bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, said the island kingdom has no plans to single out the devices, arguing that terrorists and criminals have “thousands of ways” to hide their communications.

“Eventually we’ll get to a point to ban computers,” he said. “There’s always a discussion about things that develop technologically. But we have to live with it.”



A woman uses her BlackBerry on Sheikh Zayed highway in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Tuesday Aug. 17, 2010. Dubai, one of the world’s busiest layover stops for long-haul international passengers has given the Canadian company until October to comply with its laws or face bans on e-mails, messaging and Web services. Neighboring Saudi Arabia has threatened to block the devices’ popular BlackBerry Messenger service.

AP

Info freedom at center of Gulf’s BlackBerry debate

Cell phones with video cameras helped bring the world the iconic footage of a young Iranian woman dying of a gunshot wound in the midst of the country’s 2009 “Green Revolution”—images spread rapidly on websites the government tried feverishly to block.

Now the use of new, sophisticated technologies is raising alarm in the Arab world’s two biggest economies. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates have threatened to cut off popular BlackBerry services unless they wring out concessions that would almost certainly give them greater access to user information.

Both countries cite security threats. The U.S. says those concerns are legitimate. But critics say the governments’ fears also provide a convenient justification to further tighten controls on the flow of information they believe could stir opposition or morally corrupt their societies.

opposition or direct elections of national representatives. Freedom of expression is limited.

In the Gulf, BlackBerrys are used both by busy professionals and consumers who see them as a way to avoid unwanted attention from authorities—even if the consumer version of the service lacks the level of protection afforded to corporate clients.

Saudi youth, segregated by sex in public, use the gadgets to flirt covertly. And Emirati users have received messages urging a boycott of gas stations to protest price hikes—a call that conflicts with rules against unauthorized demonstrations.

In China, tensions erupted with Google in January after the company said it would stop complying with the broad censoring of search results demanded by authorities in Beijing. Google has since agreed to obey Chinese laws and stop automatically switching users

Health & Fitness

Five tips to protect new dads' health

» Check your vaccinations and eating habits, and watch for depression

By ANYA MARTIN
MARKETWATCH

DECATUR, Ga.—Attention, expectant dads: Moms aren't the only ones who experience health risks before or after birth.

Even though fathers-to-be don't go through the physical changes of carrying a child, some have insomnia, nausea, irritability or even labor pains, a condition called Couvade syndrome, or sympathetic pregnancy. And about 10 percent of fathers develop prenatal or postpartum depression, according

to a study in the May 19 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

While most men won't face these more extreme symptoms, they still may gain weight, feel tension or neglect to care for their own chronic conditions, said Dr. Ari Brown, an Austin, Texas pediatrician and co-author of *Expecting 411: Clear Answers & Smart Advice for Your Pregnancy*.

Ironically, she said, physical and mental-health issues that come along with pregnancy and childbirth may be side effects of a positive social development—fathers helping their partners more with labor and child-care responsibilities.

"We often focus on the supermom trying to do it all, but I think there's also a superdad," Brown said. "There's a lot of stress and strain on your physical health if you don't take care of yourself."

Here are five tips to help

dads-to-be stay healthy.

1. Talk to other fathers.

Fathers who educate themselves in advance about what to expect during labor and afterward tend to be more prepared as partners in delivery and childcare and less stressed overall, Brown said. They can go with their partners to prenatal doctor's appointments, take classes and read books.

Another strategy is to talk to other fathers, said Bruce Linton, founder and director of the Berkeley, Calif.-based Fathers' Forum programs. Conversations with other men can help dads-to-be feel less isolated and more empowered, he said.

"A lot of men are socialized to be very strong and in control, so when they start to experience the emotions around being a father, it's very disorienting," Linton said. "Being in a group where other men talk about their feelings, whether happy or sad, tearful or joyful,

seems to reassure them that those feelings are normal."

2. Get a check-up and make sure you're vaccinated.

Expectant dads shouldn't just tag along to their partner's appointments but schedule their own, Brown said. It's important that they check their overall health including cholesterol and glucose levels.

"A new pregnancy is an opportunity for you to take care of yourself because your child is going to need you to be around," she said.

While at the doctor, fathers also can take an important and often-neglected step to keep their babies safe—ensuring they're up to date with their vaccinations. Vaccinating against whooping cough, also called pertussis, and flu are two of the big ones, said Lance Rodewald, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Immunization Services Division. A 2007 study found that 71 percent of babies who get whooping cough catch it from someone in their household.

"Very young babies can't be vaccinated until they are two months old, and even one vaccine does not give them full protection," he said.

Whooping cough is included in the Tdap vaccine, which also protects against tetanus and diphtheria.

Right now expectant fathers should get both separate seasonal flu and H1N1 (swine flu) shots, Rodewald said. But this year's seasonal flu vaccine, expected to be available in August or September, will include H1N1 protection.

3. Take time off.

Only 15 percent of employers offer designated paid paternity leave, according to 2009 data from the Society of Human Resources Management.

But almost all American working fathers—about 89 percent—take some time off for a baby's birth, whether paid or unpaid, or under family, sick, vacation or other leave categories, according to a 2007 study, thought to be the nation's only large, comprehensive research on paternity leave. It examined data collected in 2001 from 4,500 two-parent families.

The study didn't explore the effect of taking more time off specifically on men's stress, but it's easy to extrapolate that not having to juggle work and child care must be less exhausting, said Jane Waldfogel, the study's co-researcher and professor of social work and public affairs at Columbia University School of Social Work.



Fathers who educate themselves in advance about what to expect during labor and afterward tend to be more prepared as partners in delivery and childcare and less stressed overall.

"In the first two weeks, one hardly has time to take a shower, much less make it on time to work," Waldfogel said.

Two decades ago, many fewer men took time off, but the game-changer was the passage of the federal Family Medical Leave Act in 1993, which mandated that certain employers must allow eligible workers to take 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to care for a family member, she said. The high rates with which men take paternity leave suggest that even tough economic times are unlikely to reverse the trend, she said.

If you're willing to take unpaid time off, your boss may even see it as a company cost-saver, Waldfogel said. Or if work obligations make possible only a few days' leave, consider asking to work part-time during a baby's first weeks.

4. Watch your weight and eating habits.

Pregnant women are commonly told to consume 300 calories more per day, but when they crave a milkshake fathers often have one, too, Brown said.

Pregnancy is a great time to break bad eating habits, such as grabbing a bag of chips while watching the big game, she said. Seeing their dad eat junk food can lead children to develop poor eating habits. And wolfing down too many of the wrong kind of calories can increase a man's risk for diabetes, heart disease and other health problems that affect his ability to parent over the long haul.

"It really takes a family to change a lifestyle, and the time to start is now while your wife is pregnant," Brown said.

"It's much easier to stick to a healthy diet when both of you are doing it."

5. Get help if you feel stressed or depressed.

While stress and sleep deprivation seem likely culprits for depression among expectant and new fathers, studies so far suggest depression rates for new fathers are highest three to six months after a baby's birth, said Dr. James F. Paulson, lead author of the JAMA study and associate professor of pediatrics at Eastern Virginia Medical School. Fathers with partners exhibiting depression also are more likely to have symptoms themselves, he said.

New dads in the U.S. are more likely to experience prenatal and postpartum depression than their international counterparts, the study found. American men reported a 14.1 percent rate compared with 8.2 percent of men in other countries.

To compound matters, expectant fathers aren't routinely screened for depression, meaning some men are left to self-diagnose and seek help for a condition they may feel uncomfortable admitting they have, Paulson said.

"Expecting dads need to keep themselves aware of the symptoms of depression, but it's also something that couples should focus on together," he said. "Be aware of the phenomenon and that it might happen to you."

Some signs of depression, according to the Mayo Clinic, include irritability, insomnia, feelings of sadness or unhappiness, loss of interest in favorite activities, appetite changes and concentration troubles.

Health Matters

Loud toys hurt ears

A child's hearing can easily be damaged from exposure to a toy's loud sounds, especially over time.

The problem

- Children often hold toys that make sounds close to their ears
- Standards are voluntary; U.S. has no restrictions
- The European standard is 115 decibels, a level considered unsafe, even for a short time

Guidelines

From The American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM):

Toy type	Maximum decibels*
① Close-to-the-ear toys	70
② Hand-held, table-top, crib	90
③ Explosive-type sounds	138

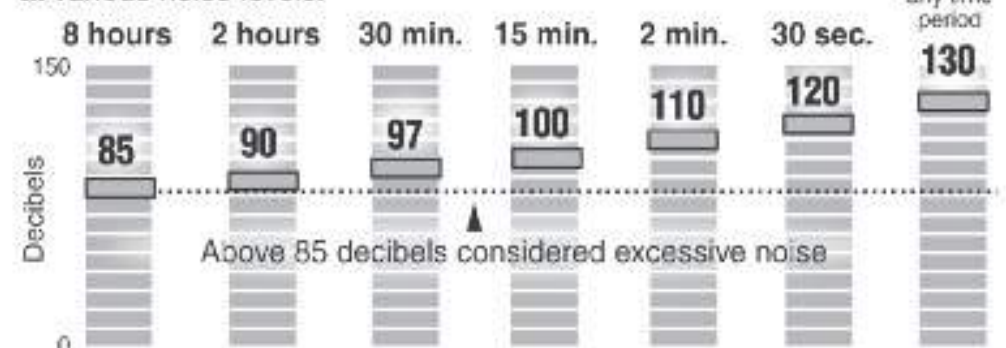
*Measured at 10 in. (25 cm)

Noisy toys



What's safe?

Estimated time before hearing damage can occur at various noise levels:



Source: National Campaign for Hearing Health, The American Society for Testing Materials, New York Public Interest Research Group Graphic: Lee Hulteng © 2010 MCT

Life & Style

'Vapor trail' leads to Paris Hilton's Vegas arrest

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Smoke wafting from a Cadillac Escalade on the Las Vegas Strip set off Paris Hilton's latest legal troubles when a motorcycle officer who suspected the smell was marijuana stopped the vehicle and police say a bag of cocaine later fell out of the 29-year-old socialite's purse.

It's the second time this year Hilton has been arrested on drug possession allegations, although authorities in South Africa dropped marijuana charges earlier this summer. In 2007, Hilton pleaded no contest to alcohol-related reckless driving and was sentenced to 45 days in jail.

This time, the hotel heiress was with her boyfriend, Las Vegas nightclub mogul Cy Waits, who manages a club inside the Wynn Las Vegas and was driving the black SUV that the officer stopped nearby at 11:22 p.m. Friday.

The officer "followed the vapor trail and the odor of marijuana to the Escalade," police Sgt. John Sheahan said.

As other police arrived and a crowd gathered on the busy neon-lit Strip, Hilton asked to go into the Wynn resort for privacy, Sheahan said.

"Miss Hilton pulled out a tube of lip balm," Sheahan said. "At the same time ... a bundle of cocaine in a plastic bag came out of her purse" in plain view of police in the room.

Police Officer Marcus Martin characterized the cocaine as a "small amount," or a package of the size usually associated with personal use. Police would not specify the weight of the cocaine or whether any marijuana was confiscated.

Hilton was arrested on suspicion of felony cocaine possession. If convicted of the low-grade felony, she would get probation, but any violation of that probation would be punishable by up to one to four years in Nevada state prison.

Waits, 34, was arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Misdemeanors are punishable by up to a year in county jail. Police said he owned the 2009 Cadillac.

Hilton and Waits were booked into the Clark County jail, where Sheahan said Hilton was kept handcuffed on a booking room bench, fingerprinted, photographed and released without bail about 2:45 a.m. Saturday.



Hilton

Waits' lawyer, Richard Schonfeld, said Waits posted \$2,000 bail Saturday. Waits was released Saturday afternoon.

Sheahan said Hilton was not taken to a cell and received no special treatment on a busy Friday night and Saturday morning at the jail. He said release without bail was common in such cases.

Hilton, a prolific tweeter, didn't mention the arrest on her Twitter site, although less than an hour after she was released her account was updated with a posting that said the actress was in bed watching the television show "Family Guy."

It was unclear if the tweets came from her, were posted by time-release or were sent by someone else. Hilton spokeswoman Dawn Miller wouldn't comment when reached by an Associated Press reporter Saturday afternoon.

Hilton's attorney, David Chesnoff, told The Associated Press on Saturday morning that he was still gathering facts about the arrest.

"This matter will be dealt with in the courts not in the media and I encourage people not to rush to judgment until all of the facts have been dealt with in a court of law," Chesnoff said later in a statement. "There will be no interviews and no more comments at this time."

Schonfeld said he was "troubled by the circumstances" leading to the arrest, but declined to specify his concerns.

"As the case proceeds, a lot of facts are going to come to light that will ultimately lead to exoneration," Schonfeld said.

Court dates for Hilton and Waits were not immediately available. Clark County District Attorney David Roger declined to comment Saturday about



Waits

the case.

A spokeswoman for Wynn Resorts in Las Vegas did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

Waits and his twin brother, Jesse, are managing partners of the Tryst Nightclub inside Wynn Las Vegas, Drai's after hours club at Bill's Gamblin' Hall & Saloon, and XS The Nightclub at Wynn's Encore resort. A spokeswoman for Harrah's resorts declined immediate comment.

Earlier this week, Hilton was in the news when a 31-year-old man allegedly tried to break into her Los Angeles home.

Authorities have said that someone carrying two big knives banged on Hilton's window Tuesday. She posted a photo of the arrest on Twitter and described it as "scary." Nathan Lee Parada faces a felony burglary charge.

Hilton was arrested this summer after the Brazil-Netherlands World Cup match in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, on suspicion of possession of marijuana. The case was then dropped at a midnight court hearing.

Hilton pleaded no contest in 2007 to alcohol-related reckless driving and was sentenced to 45 days in jail. After spending about 23 days in jail, Hilton told CNN host Larry King that the experience caused her to re-evaluate the role partying played in her life. She said she wanted "to help raise money for kids and for breast cancer and multiple sclerosis."

While most famous for her tabloid exploits and reality TV series "The Simple Life," Hilton has appeared in the films "Bottoms Up," "The Hot Chick" and "House of Wax."

Chinese man with no arms plays piano with toes

By **ELAINE KURTENBACH**
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

SHANGHAI (AP)—Pianist Liu Wei sits quietly to compose himself before plunging into the music. Then he takes off a sock.

The 23-year-old, whose arms were amputated after a childhood accident, plays the piano with his toes.

Liu was thrust into the limelight earlier this month when he performed on "China's Got Talent," the Chinese version of the TV show that helped make Britain's Susan Boyle a singing star.

"Whatever other people do with their hands, I do with my feet. It's just that," says Liu, a tall, slender man who peers shyly from behind dark-rimmed glasses.

"China's Got Talent," which has also featured disabled modern dancers and break-dancing migrant workers, has been a hit since its launch in July, despite skepticism among some viewers about whether all the participants' stories are genuine. The Dragon TV program is drawing attention to the hopes and challenges of the disabled and otherwise disadvantaged in China.

In his first appearance, Liu received a standing ovation from the audience, many of whom were moved to tears, for a performance of "Mariage D'amour" by Richard Clayderman.

During an interview with The Associated Press in Shanghai, where the show is filmed, he played a still unnamed, poignant piece he composed himself.

Sitting on a tallish red stool, he removed his shoes and right sock, carefully using his toes to place the sock in his right shoe. (He plays with his left sock on.) He wiped some of the keys with a tissue, and then rested his heels on a velvet-covered, narrow platform before the piano.

Time after time, he played the piece gently and flawlessly.

Liu, who was 10 when he lost his arms from an electrical shock while

playing hide-and-seek, uses his feet to navigate online, eat, dress and brush his teeth.

"I wish I could go out driving to have fun. Apart from that, there is really nothing more I want to do," said Liu, who lives in Beijing. "Music has become a habit for me. It is just like breathing air."

He only began playing the piano in his late teens.

"Nobody ever decreed that to play the piano you must use your hands," he said.

Prosthetic limbs don't interest Liu. He has no need for special support, he said, though he conceded he has often met with discrimination. Disabled people in China, despite efforts to improve conditions, are often forced to beg on the sidewalks. Liu is able to support himself, though he wouldn't say how.

"I have food to eat and clothes to wear and many people caring about me. What is there to be dissatisfied about?" he said. "There are many people without enough to eat. I'm much more fortunate than they are."

Sun Ganlu, a writer and arts critic in Shanghai, said that, whatever the commercial motives behind "China's Got Talent," the show is raising awareness in a positive way.

"The fact is that people are touched by these great performers, regardless of whether they are disabled or poor," he said. "They are struggling in life compared with others, but they also have hobbies and talents to get them through their tough lives."

"It helps people be more aware of whether we are doing too little to help these people," he added.

Liu's biggest beef is with people who insist on helping him without asking first.

"Here, if someone thinks you need help they will just do it. They assume you must want help," he said. "Foreigners will ask first if you want any help. They will first respect your wishes. In that way, China could make an improvement."

Liu would like to be seen just as a pianist.

Judge grants restraining order sought by DiCaprio

By **ANTHONY McCARTNEY**
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Leonardo DiCaprio has been granted a temporary restraining order against a woman he said claims to be his wife and carrying his baby.

Court records show Superior Court Judge Carol Boas Goodson granted the order Wednesday against Livia Bistriceanu, 41, of Chicago.

"Given this obsessive and harassing behavior, I am frightened of Ms. Bistriceanu and feel that my personal safety, and the personal safety of those around me, is in jeopardy," DiCaprio wrote in a sworn declaration.



DiCaprio

An e-mail message sent Friday to Bistriceanu seeking comment was not immediately returned.

DiCaprio's request included statements from the actor and his security team claiming Bistriceanu had traveled from Chicago to Los Angeles at least twice to try to meet DiCaprio at his home and business office. She refused to leave the properties and acted aggressively, the court filings state.

The Academy Award-nominated actor wrote that she "has evidenced a willingness to make physical contact with me regardless of the consequences."

Bistriceanu has been placed on a

psychological hold twice, according to the documents.

DiCaprio said he has never met Bistriceanu, but she has sent him numerous handwritten letters. Some were attached to his request for the restraining order and reviewed by the judge.

One letter included the greeting, "Dear husband Leo," and contained statements that Bistriceanu believed DiCaprio was the father of baby Jesus.

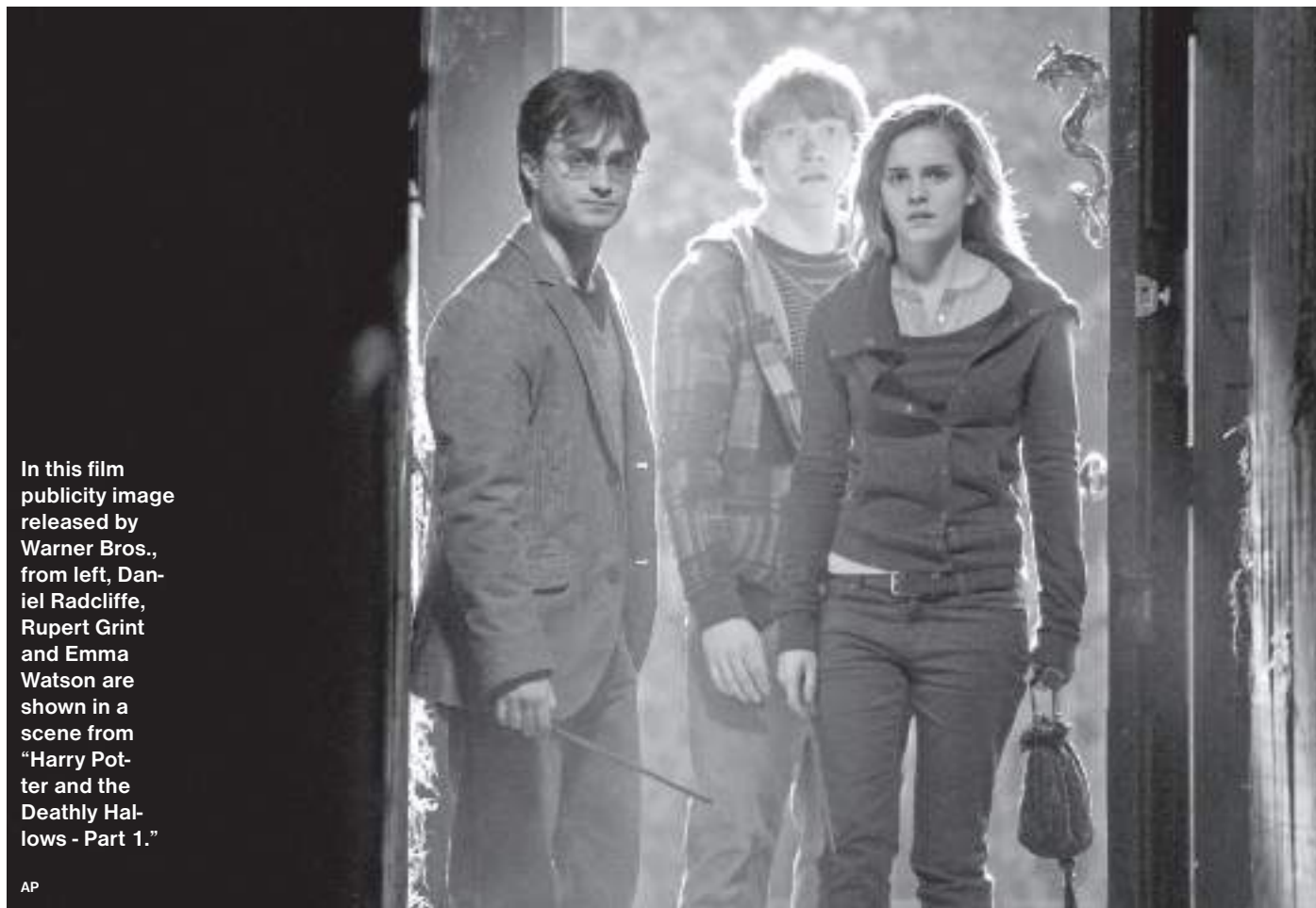
On Thursday, another woman was ordered to stand trial on a charge of slashing DiCaprio's face with a piece of glass during a party in 2005.

Aretha Wilson pleaded not guilty to assault with a deadly weapon after being returned to Los Angeles from her native Canada.



In this Aug. 26, 2010 photo, pianist Liu Wei plays the piano with his toes during his practice session in Shanghai. The 23-year-old, whose arms were amputated after a childhood accident, plays the piano with his toes. Liu was thrust into the limelight earlier this month when he performed on "China's Got Talent," the Chinese version of the TV show that helped make Britain's Susan Boyle a singing star.

'Harry Potter' finale, part 1, leads holiday films



In this film publicity image released by Warner Bros., from left, Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson are shown in a scene from "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 1."

AP

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Of all the old acquaintances coming to movie screens for the holidays—Rooster Cogburn, Gulliver, Yogi Bear, the Focker family, the Narnia crew—one kid with glasses stands above them all.

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1" is the beginning of the end for one of Hollywood's most remarkable undertakings, a decade-long dash to adapt J.K. Rowling's seven novels about the young wizard before Daniel Radcliffe and his co-stars outgrew the roles.

Told in two parts, with November's first installment followed by next July's finale, the adaptation of Rowling's final book sends Radcliffe's Harry and pals Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint) outside the safety of Hogwarts wizardry school on a quest to bring down their nemesis, evil Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes), once and for all.

Radcliffe campaigned from the start to break the story into two movies. Unlike the earlier books, which had secondary plot lines that could be omitted, "Deathly Hallows" had few details to drop, Radcliffe said.

"It's just the three of them on the road, and that's what you're focusing on, that's where everything happens. So there's very little you can actually cut without changing the story," Radcliffe said. "There was no way you could do justice to the book and really capture the story in one film, unless you made that film six hours," Radcliffe said.

"And while I know there are some 'Potter' fans that would be quite happy to have a six-hour 'Harry Potter' film, we do want to make films not just for

the huge fans of the books, but also for the other people, regular cinema-goers, who perhaps haven't read them. So it was essential to make it palatable for sort of everyone, while also remaining true to the book, and to do that, you have to make it into two films."

Here's a look at highlights among other films debuting for the holidays this November and December:

FAMILY STUFF

Brad Pitt, Will Ferrell and Tina Fey combine voice talents for the animated comedy "Megamind," about a supervillain with a void in his life after defeating the superhero who thwarted him for years.

"The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader" resumes C.S. Lewis' fantasy adventure, with the Pevensie youths reteaming with King Caspian on a perilous sea journey.

Live action and animation mix for "Yogi Bear," with Dan Aykroyd and Justin Timberlake providing the voices of the cartoon bear and his pal Boo Boo, who face eviction from Jellystone Park.

FUNNY STUFF

Father-in-law Robert De Niro and son-in-law Ben Stiller are at odds again in "Little Fockers," the third chapter in the "Meet the Parents" franchise, with fresh mayhem erupting at a family gathering.

Also on the comedy front: Harrison Ford, Diane Keaton and Rachel McAdams star in "Morning Glory," about bickering hosts of a morning TV news show; Jack Black takes the title role in "Gulliver's Travels," a modern update of Jonathan Swift's tale of a man who

travels to a land of tiny people; Robert Downey Jr. plays a high-strung man racing home for the birth of his child and reluctantly forced to travel with an aspiring actor (Zach Galifianakis).

Downey said laughs were the main aim of the comedy from director Todd Phillips ("The Hangover"), yet the filmmakers also sought to dig deep into issues troubling the mismatched protagonists.

"We were talking about a Russian family drama, the way we talked about the beats and what was important and what was missing," Downey said. "Without it being too self-serving, some of that really is what the movie is about. These subtleties. How desperate these guys are and how kind of fortunate it is that they come together. There's even a sense of actual recognition of fate. It's not two-dimensional. It's a pretty complex story."

ROMANTIC STUFF

Jake Gyllenhaal's a fast-talking, womanizing Viagra salesman pursuing an elusive new romantic target (Anne Hathaway) in "Love & Other Drugs."

"How Do You Know" stars Reese Witherspoon, Owen Wilson, Paul Rudd and Jack Nicholson in a comedy from director James L. Brooks ("Terms of Endearment"), about a woman torn between her ballplayer boyfriend and a new man.

Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie star in "The Tourist," a romantic thriller about a heartbroken man swept up in intrigue in Italy after a mystery woman thrusts her way into his life.

"Blue Valentine" casts Ryan Gosling and Michelle Williams in a drama that cuts back and forth between a couple's hopeful beginnings and the

agonizing disintegration of their marriage.

SERIOUS STUFF

Helen Mirren does Shakespearean sorcery and hard-boiled espionage with a pair of December releases.

Julie Taymor's gender-bending "The Tempest" casts Mirren in a traditionally male role as a woman who conjures a storm to shipwreck enemies on her island home, where she aims to settle old scores.

"The Debt," from "Shakespeare in Love" director John Madden, features Mirren and "Avatar" star Sam Worthington in a thriller about Mossad agents chasing a Nazi butcher.

Among other holiday dramas: Danny Boyle ("Slumdog Millionaire") directs "127 Hours," starring James Franco as a mountain climber struggling to survive after he's trapped by a boulder; Colin Firth plays Britain's King George VI, father of the current queen, as a therapist (Geoffrey Rush) tries to help him overcome a speech impediment; Natalie Portman's a ballet dancer whose dark side emerges as she competes with a rival in "Black Swan"; Mark Wahlberg and Christian Bale are sibling boxers who team for triumph in the ring in "The Fighter"; Sofia Coppola ("Lost in Translation") directs "Somewhere," the story of a party-boy actor (Stephen Dorff) reassessing his life during a visit from his daughter (Elle Fanning); Naomi Watts and Sean Penn star in "Fair Game," a drama about CIA operative Valerie Plame, whose cover was blown by a Bush administration leak.

To prepare, Watts went to spy boot camp, where she was handcuffed, hooded, confined in a box, struck with canes

and put through other ordeals to familiarize herself with Plame's world.

"The first day, I said, 'Ow,' when somebody kicked me on the shins, and the trainer said—he always would sound so fierce and angry, like these beady eyes and tight lips—great trainer, he just said, 'Don't be making any complaints unless you want to go to hospital. And we can go to hospital, but I don't want to humiliate you,'" Watts said. "So it was like, 'Oh, my God. I better really toughen up here.'"

MUSICAL STUFF

Christina Aguilera's an aspiring singer hoping for a break at a musical revue in "Burlesque," which co-stars Cher, Stanley Tucci, Kristen Bell and Julianne Hough.

Other music tales this season: The animated musical "Tangled" features Mandy Moore providing the voice of long-haired Rapunzel, the fairy-tale princess trapped in a tower; "The Nutcracker in 3D" features John Turturro and Elle Fanning in the holiday classic about a girl and a nutcracker that comes to life, with new songs set to music from Tchaikovsky's ballet; Gwyneth Paltrow and Tim McGraw star in "Country Strong," the story of a fallen country star hoping to revive her career on a tour

with a rising songwriter (Garrett Hedlund).

ACTION STUFF

Denzel Washington and director Tony Scott's latest collaboration is "Unstoppable." Washington's a railroad engineer who teams with a conductor ("Star Trek" star Chris Pine) to put the brakes on a runaway train carrying deadly toxins.

Washington said action ace Scott was like a kid with a giant train set.

"Literally, he's got the biggest one in the world. A mile and a half long worth of cars," Washington said. "It's Tony Scott playing with trains. Chris Pine and I are just pawns. It's him with a bunch of trains. He's blowing them up, knocking them off the tracks."

Also in the action lineup: Russell Crowe stars in "The Next Three Days" as a man plotting a prison break after his wife (Elizabeth Banks) is jailed for murder; An ex-con (Dwayne Johnson) on a vengeance mission is pursued by a cop (Billy Bob Thornton) and a hitman in "Faster"; Jeff Bridges resurrects two Hollywood heroes with "Tron: Legacy," a followup to his 1982 sci-fi adventure "Tron," and Joel and Ethan Coen's "True Grit," a remake of the John Wayne Western.

Whoopi quits 'Sister Act' after mother's stroke

LONDON (AP)—Whoopi Goldberg has left the London production of "Sister Act" to fly back to the U.S. after her mother had a stroke.

Goldberg was due to appear as the Mother Superior in the convent-set musical until the end of the month.

Producers say the 54-year-old star flew home Friday after learning of her mother

Emma's illness. They said "the thoughts and sincere best wishes of the producers and the entire 'Sister Act' company are with her at this difficult time."

Goldberg is a producer of the stage version of her hit 1992 movie about an on-the-lam singer who hides out among a group of nuns. It is due to open on Broadway next year.



AP

U.S. actress and producer Whoopi Goldberg performs during a dress rehearsal, as she joins the theatre cast of Sister Act. Goldberg will appear in the show for a limited three-week run from Tuesday, Aug. 10, 2010. She'll be playing the role of Mother Superior, following in the footsteps of Maggie Smith and Sheila Hancock, at the London Palladium Theatre.

Katy Perry plots next album, does 'MTV Unplugged'

By HILARY FOX
ASSOCIATES PRESS WRITER

LONDON (AP)—"American Idol" contestants should be thankful that they have caring, sharing Ellen DeGeneres on the panel now and not Katy Perry.

The singer was a guest judge for auditions to be featured on next season's show, and she did not pull any punches with the hopeless hopefuls.

"We all have friends or people that we've known that maybe they wanted to be a rock star, or be this or that, and no one ever told them that they can't," she says. "Like, 'It's just like you weren't born with pitch, so it's not going to happen and someone needs to tell you that because 15 years later you've wasted all this time and when you could have been a doctor.'"

They should probably take Perry's advice; the Grammy-nominee knows what it takes to be a success. Her 2008 album "One of the Boys," went platinum and featured international smash hits like "I Kissed a Girl" and "Hot N Cold."

And now she is proud to be following in the footsteps of Nirvana and Lauryn Hill by recording her own "MTV Unplugged" session. The CD/DVD is being released Tuesday.

Perry spoke to The Associated Press about stripping her songs bare, writing scandalous lyrics and how her next album will make people dance.

The Associated Press: What was the appeal for you in doing "MTV Unplugged"?

Katy Perry: Well the "MTV Unplugged" session was really important, it was kind of like the swan song of the whole "One of the Boys" record. It was the last real look I wanted to give on the record and show off some of the songs at their most simple, kind



Singer Katy Perry performs on NBC's "Today" in New York's Rockefeller Center Friday, Aug. 27, 2010. AP

of at their most stripped down, at the skeleton, at the core of what some of them were written or how they were written.

AP: Were you nervous at taking those songs that you've performed in big festivals and then sitting down in front of an intimate audience?

Perry: No, I actually thrive in that kind of environment probably better; not better, it's just a different me. The first time I started singing was in church, but then when I started playing guitar I would go into the newspaper and I would find open-mic sessions and coffee shops that would let anybody sign up to play. And I would go there and I would just pull out my guitar and play these little rough drafts of songs and get people's feedback and really see if it was connect-

ing if people really related to it or if they would even listen.

AP: But I've read that the next stuff you're going to be doing will be more pop and dance-oriented. Is that right?

Perry: I'm hoping it's going to be a bit more pop. Going on the road, that's what I saw that I lacked in concert, was a little bit more movement. And that doesn't mean that I have to sacrifice the story for it.

AP: I know "One of the Boys" had a lot of personal things that happened to you when you were growing up. Now you're much more high-profile, much more successful, are you still going to have that personal aspect in your stories?

Perry: Yeah, I think even more so. I guess in my personal

life and in interviews and when I sit down to talk about things, sometimes I don't give as much detail as I used to, but I think I am saving it for the songs, and the songs I'm just gushing. From the few songs that I've written so far, they are very honest, if not more honest than the last ones. But they are a little bit more mature ... I know how to handle boys now. Actually I don't even mess with boys any more, I mess with men, you know. It's different because "One of the Boys" (I) was like 17 to 23 and some of those songs, like half the record, I wrote when I was like 19 and that's such a different place than you are when you're 25.

AP: Your life must be completely different now. It's a whirlwind.

Perry: Yeah I'm definitely getting used to it, or trying; it's difficult. I don't feel completely different than when I started. I feel like I have a lot to prove still and I still have that ambition and that drive that I had when I didn't have any money, or when I didn't know what was going to happen in the future, if I was going to make it or anything.

AP: With the last album, there was a lot of hype about "I Kissed a Girl" and "Ur So Gay." Do you feel like you're going to have to have some kind of scandalous angle on a track on the new album?

Perry: I think the "I Kissed a Girl" and the "Ur So Gay" were never, "oh, let's see how I can stir up a pot of scandalous," you know. It was actually just me telling my story, and that is how I see the world you know, and that's the kind of funny, messed-up way I live my life, I guess. With a dark undertone, a sarcastic dark undertone, just everything is kind of that way for me, and so I'm sure that'll be a thread in my next record.

Woman wary of entertaining friend's obnoxious husband

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have a good friend, "Nina," whom I have known more than 35 years. I relocated 1,500 miles from her recently, and would like to invite her to visit me. The problem is, I want her to come alone. My husband and I have no desire to entertain her husband, "Sam."

Sam is a verbally abusive know-it-all on every subject who monopolizes every conversation, allowing no one else to get a word in. The few times we went out together as a foursome, my husband came home with a pounding headache.

How do I tell Nina I would love for her to come, but to leave Sam home? I don't want to hurt her feelings, but we will no longer tolerate his self-centered personality nor the way he treats my friend.

P.S. None of Sam's family will invite him to stay for the same reason.

NO ROOM AT THE INN IN MISSOURI

DEAR NO ROOM: Try this: Invite Nina for a "girls' visit"—perhaps to shop, spend a day at a spa, or just put her feet up and gossip. List whatever mutual interests you have that you can think of that would bore Sam to death. Also, try to invite her at a time when your husband might be away—so there isn't the expectation that Sam "should" be included. If the situation is as you describe with Sam's family, he's used to it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I am a male who wears women's underwear, as well as skirts, shorts and nightgowns. I will soon be flying to Florida and will be taking a carry-on bag with me and checking another one.

Will security agents open my luggage and inspect the contents of each bag? I worry about being embarrassed and considered a "suspicious person" when they see what's in my bag. Abby, how can I lessen my chances of an embarrassing scene?

WORRIED TRAVELER IN COLORADO

DEAR WORRIED TRAVELER: Please stop worrying about "an embarrassing scene." Airport security has seen it all—and I do mean all—and with the new scanners they'll soon be seeing even more. They are interested only in preventing contraband from being taken on the plane. Period.

P.S. Many men buy gifts of clothing for their wives or girlfriends—and if you don't cross-dress at the airport or tell them anything to the contrary, inspectors will probably assume the same about you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have recently filed for custody of my 6-year-old niece, "Ella." My mother has had custody for the last few years, but Mother is an alcoholic. I have tried to control various situations that arise, but I cannot let my niece be in my mother's care. I know what it was like for me growing up in that environment, and I want better opportunities for Ella.

My mother will be heartbroken, but I see no alternative. How can I explain this to my mother? I want her to get help, but she still doesn't admit that she has a problem.

CONFUSED IN ARKANSAS

DEAR CONFUSED: If you have custody of Ella, it doesn't mean that your mother can't see or spend time with her—when she's sober. But right now, your niece's welfare is more important than your mother's feelings.

Surely you are not the only person who realizes your mother has a problem with alcohol. Gather some allies and stage an intervention. All of you should tell her the effect that her drinking has had on those around her. That may be her "wake-up call," and may cause her to seek help.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

John Lennon's toilet fetches \$14,744 at auction

LONDON (AP)—A toilet used by John Lennon has sold for 9500 pounds (\$14,744)—nearly 10 times its guide price—at an auction in Britain. The porcelain lavatory was used by the Beatles musician for three years when he lived at Tittenhurst Park in Berkshire, west of London, between 1969 and 1972. Auction organizer Stephen Bailey said a private overseas buyer bought the toilet Saturday at the 33rd annual Beatles Convention in Liverpool. The toilet was expected to sell for 1,000 pounds.

Ono to mark John Lennon's 70th birthday in Iceland

NEW YORK (AP)—Yoko Ono is planning a series of events in Iceland to mark what would have been John Lennon's 70th birthday. The artist and peace campaigner will light the Imagine Peace Tower illuminated memorial, located on the

island of Vioey near Icelandic capital Reykjavik (RAY'-kyuh-vik), on Oct. 9. A special performance by the Yoko Ono Plastic Ono Band will follow the ceremony. Lennon's widow is also expected to present awards from the Lennon Ono Grant for Peace, created to honor the former Beatle's peace activism. Lennon was fatally shot outside the couple's Manhattan apartment building on Dec. 8, 1980.

Detroit rapper wins Eminem-hosted freestyle battle

DETROIT (AP)—The winner of a national freestyle rap battle competition held in Detroit and hosted by Eminem is from—where else—Detroit. Eighteen-year-old Saffal "Fowl" Tall won the Red Bull EmSee title Thursday night at St. Andrew's Hall, beating out rappers from New York; Philadelphia; San Francisco; Orlando, Florida; Greensboro, North Carolina; Houston and Atlanta. Eminem says "a rap battle in Detroit is

no laughing matter, and it seems that Fowl took it the most seriously tonight." The superstar rapper hosted and also served as a judge at the event that was designed to resemble the head-to-head verbal assaults featured in his hit 2002 movie, "8 Mile."

Spanish singer Julio Iglesias marries in secret

MADRID (AP)—Spanish singer Julio Iglesias has married Dutch model Miranda Rijnsburger, his partner for the past 20 years. The 66-year-old singer announced the marriage in a statement to Spanish newspapers. The wedding took place at the Virgen del Carmen church in the southern jet-set resort of Marbella. Rev. Roberto Rojo Aguado, one of three priests who celebrated the ceremony, told The Associated Press on Friday that the couple were married Tuesday. He said the ceremony was attended by two witnesses and the couple's five children. Rijnsburger is 45.

Iglesias was previously married to Isabel Preysler, with whom he had three children.

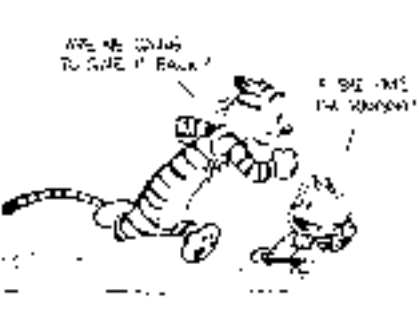
Taylor Swift debuts 'Mine' music video in Maine

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (AP)—Country music star Taylor Swift has returned to Maine for a half-hour television special to introduce her latest music video. The 20-year-old Grammy winner premiered "Mine" on Friday in Kennebunkport, where the video was shot last month. During the cable TV special, Swift discussed the music video locations and showed behind-the-scenes footage. Afterward, Swift met with former President George H.W. Bush, who lives nearby and came out with his grandchildren to see her. She then surprised the hundreds of fans gathered outside St. Anne's Church by performing five or six songs with her band. The first release from Swift's new album is due out Oct. 25.

Pastimes

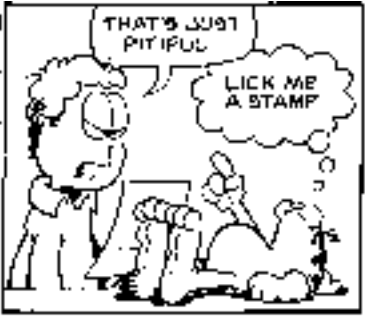
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Smooch 5 Light-switch setting 8 Golf ball no duds 12 Harcel's "Miss-siah," e.g. 14 And others (Abbr.) 15 Award 16 Emanation 17 Donkey 18 With a most no effort 20 Grow-up 23 Competent 24 Scottish 25 Movie "Jaws" 26 Compass 29 The and the Pope 30 Dish-cumber 32 "I've math" mar

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Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer: 8-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Andy Roddick, 28; Lisa Ling, 37; Cameron Diaz, 38; Michael Michele, 44

Happy Birthday: Stop resisting what is clearly meant to be. Communication will help you clear up unresolved issues that have been holding you back. A new approach to the way you develop your ideas and deal with your peers will solve past problems, allowing you greater freedom to move forward. Your numbers are 6, 10, 19, 22, 27, 35, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Make how you earn your living the focal point and you will advance. Love may be difficult and disagreements prevalent. If you sidestep any anger being directed your way and offer kindness, compassion and doable suggestions, you will keep the peace. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may be feeling anxious but, if you take the required steps toward getting something accomplished, you will ease the stress you are feeling. Plan for a vacation or a social event. Speak from the heart when dealing with friends, children or your lover. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can hide your feelings but don't let anyone take advantage of you. A stern, disciplined approach to whatever you do will help you gain respect and advancement. A career change or having greater freedom to do things your way is apparent. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You call the shots and, before you know it, you'll be running the show and getting things done your way. A love concern is likely to de-

velop if you allow someone to act aggressively toward you. Don't accept the responsibilities of others. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your heart into your work until you perfect whatever it is you are trying to accomplish. Don't let an emotional situation slow down your productivity. Love is on the rise. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Talk to someone in the know about something you want to pursue and, before you know it, you will be engaged in the thick of a new project. Travel if it will help you relax. You'll have the will power and the intelligence to get ahead personally and financially. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll have to spend more time going over what you need to do to make your domestic life easier and more cost-efficient. The changes you make can involve a move, real estate or help from a colleague. Now is not the time to give up or give in. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A partnership should be your first concern when a decision has to be made. Ideas you have shelved can now be brought back to life. Recycling will lead to rewards. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Open up conversations with people who can offer you insight into a skill that interests you. Picking up courses or trying to develop something that may bring you financial freedom should be your focus. Compromise will bring favorable results. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Love, money

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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and practicality will all get you past a roadblock that you've been facing. Don't underestimate the extent of a job or leave too little time to complete what needs to be done. Balance everything out to the last detail. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A partnership can benefit you emotionally and financially. Love is in the stars. Don't live in the past when the future looks so bright. Make a decision based on what will bring the highest personal and financial return. **

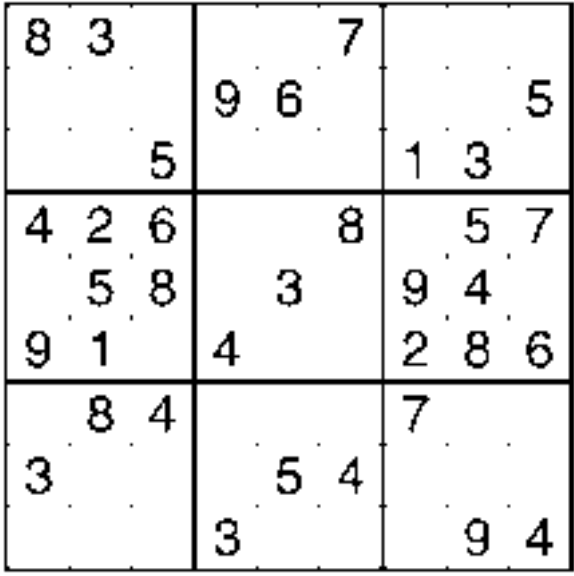
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Work-related matters need practical application if you want to get ahead. Don't mess with what works but add your own personal touch. An old partnership can be revisited. You can make money if you are willing to meet someone halfway. ****

Birthday Baby: You are a strong competitor and a diligent worker. You strive for perfection. You have courage, persistence and determination. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

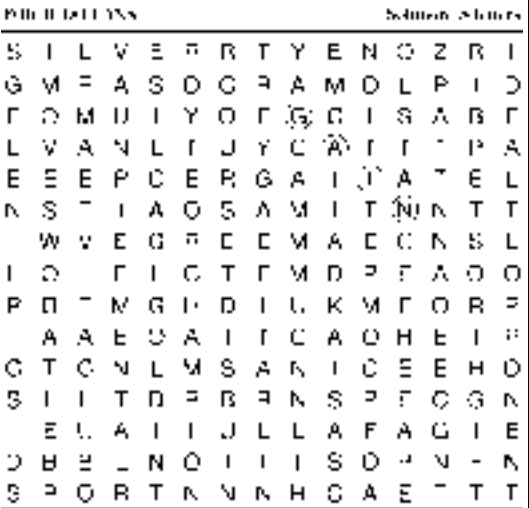
Saturday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD

By JAYD GUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: Write an answer to each clue in the grid. The letters must be in the correct order and the word must be in the correct direction.



Answers: 1. Apple, 2. Apple, 3. Apple, 4. Apple, 5. Apple, 6. Apple, 7. Apple, 8. Apple, 9. Apple, 10. Apple, 11. Apple, 12. Apple, 13. Apple, 14. Apple, 15. Apple, 16. Apple, 17. Apple, 18. Apple, 19. Apple, 20. Apple, 21. Apple, 22. Apple, 23. Apple, 24. Apple, 25. Apple, 26. Apple, 27. Apple, 28. Apple, 29. Apple, 30. Apple, 31. Apple, 32. Apple, 33. Apple, 34. Apple, 35. Apple, 36. Apple, 37. Apple, 38. Apple, 39. Apple, 40. Apple, 41. Apple, 42. Apple, 43. Apple, 44. Apple, 45. Apple, 46. Apple, 47. Apple, 48. Apple, 49. Apple, 50. Apple, 51. Apple, 52. Apple, 53. Apple, 54. Apple, 55. Apple, 56. Apple, 57. Apple, 58. Apple, 59. Apple, 60. Apple, 61. Apple, 62. Apple, 63. Apple, 64. Apple, 65. Apple, 66. Apple, 67. Apple, 68. Apple, 69. Apple, 70. Apple, 71. Apple, 72. Apple, 73. Apple, 74. Apple, 75. Apple, 76. Apple, 77. Apple, 78. Apple, 79. Apple, 80. Apple, 81. Apple, 82. Apple, 83. Apple, 84. Apple, 85. Apple, 86. Apple, 87. Apple, 88. Apple, 89. Apple, 90. Apple, 91. 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Attorney for Petitioner.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	Civil Action No. 10-0240
EDWARD TAMAOKI DELA CRUZ, Deceased.	NOTICE OF HEARING/ NOTICE OF CREDITORS

Date: October 19, 2010
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Honorable Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS FO THE DECEDENT OR OF HIS ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Elsie Lynn Dela Cruz Halstead, has filed a petition for letters of administration in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule 15, Com. R. Prob.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on October 19, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., in Courtroom 202, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to Rule 21, Com. R. Prob., notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or his Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to F. Matthew Smith at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for the further particulars.

Dated this 26th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MEI SHU LIU, Petitioner,] FCD DI Civil Action No. 10-430
Versus] SUMMONS
XIAO HUA WANG, Respondent.] SUMMONS

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Jimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel. Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the about Court:

Dated this 11th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

LAW OFFICES OF S. JOSHUA BERGER
D'Torres Building, Garapan
P. O. Box 504340
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060 Fax 235-8070

Attorney for Petitioner LPP Mortgage, Ltd.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of	CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0005
ESTEFANIA SEGIAN CABRERA	AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Deceased.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, pursuant to an Order After Hearing approved by Court Order in this matter on July 7, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Lot 011 G 818, as more particularly described Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 17, the original of which was recorded December 9, 1993 as Document No. 93-4285 at Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

1. **Date, Time and Place of Sale:** The Sale will be held on **Friday, September 17, 2010 at the hour of 1:30 p.m.**, at the Law Offices of S. Joshua Berger, 2nd Floor of the D'Torres Building in Garapan, Saipan. The sale will be open to the general public.
 2. **Change of Terms and Conditions:** The undersigned reserves the right to change the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, before the auction date and time or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, will be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.
- DATED, this 12th day of August, 2010.

/s/ MICHELINE W. BREL, Auctioneer
P.O. Box 505710, Saipan
Tel: (670) 235-8064; 287-6424
E-Mail: michbrel@hotmail.com

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• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
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KAYSERI, Turkey (AP)—Spain, the defending champion, missed Pau Gasol and lost its opening game at the basketball World Championship, going down 72-66 to France.

If it is any solace, the Spanish team lost its opening game of the football World Cup before going to win the title last month in South Africa.

France, which did not have its NBA star Tony Parker, got 16 points from Mickael Gelabale and made 10 of its last 12 free throws to seal the win.

Spain, which also won the European title last year, built a 12-point lead early in the second quarter, but France used a 9-0 run to tie the game at 25 and it was close the rest of the way.

Gasol, of the Los Angeles Lakers, and Parker, of the San Antonio Spurs, are only some of the NBA stars skipping for various reasons the 24-nation tournament that started Saturday in four Turkish cities.

Spain's 19-year-old point guard Ricky Rubio was unable to fill the void left by the injury of Jose Manuel Calderon, finishing with six points and three assists.

The United States arrived without Kobe Bryant and the entire Olympic champion side but still had an emphatic 106-78 victory over Croatia, getting 16 points from Eric Gordon.

In another impressive start, Aleksandar Rasic made six of seven 3-pointers to lead Serbia with 22 points in a 94-44 rout of Angola despite the absence of two key players.

Carlos Delfino and Luis Scola made four of six free throws down the stretch to secure Argentina's 78-74 victory over a young Germany team without Dirk Nowitzki.

Delfino finished with 27 points and Scola contributed 20 as Argentina overcame the absence of its other two NBA stars, Manu Ginobili and Andres Nocioni.

Delfino and Scola combined for 20 points in the third quarter as Argentina, ranked No. 1 in the world by FIBA, opened an 11-point lead. But Germany kept chipping away at Argentina's lead to make it a tied game with 1:30 minutes left, before the two South American stars made the difference.

"The first game is always compli-

cated," Scola said. "Germany is a very disciplined team and they played a very solid game. They kept coming back."

Australia came from behind for a lucky 76-75 win over Jordan, but another team from the Middle East, Lebanon, did win when it upset Canada 81-71 behind 31 points from forward Fadi El Khatib.

Greece pulled away for a 89-81 victory over China, but not before China had gotten within two points late in the game.

Russia defeated Puerto Rico 75-66, Lithuania beat New Zealand 92-79 and Slovenia eased past Tunisia 80-56.

Also, Brazil beat Iran 81-65 and host Turkey swept past Ivory Coast 86-74.

In Istanbul, the Americans turned a

close game into a blowout by limiting the Croatians to six points in the second quarter. Chauncey Billups finished with 12 points.

The U.S. team came to Turkey without any players who helped them win the gold medal in the 2008 Olympics. Instead of those superstars, the Americans are left with a young, undersized

team that features Kevin Durant, the NBA's leading scorer, as its centerpiece.

He scored five straight points to kick off the decisive burst early in the second quarter and added eight rebounds to his 14 points in just 21 minutes.

"People aren't expecting us to come out here and win, so we just wanted to make a statement and I think tonight we did," Durant said.

But even without its biggest names, this team might be good enough to win the first world title for the U.S. in 16 years if it plays the way it did in the second quarter.

"We like that type of adversity," Gordon said. "People think we're too young or too small, but I think we're playing well as a team and we play much faster when we're smaller, and we're just an overall good team."

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 17 points and Marko Popovic added 16 for Croatia, which once was among the world's best teams but hadn't played in the world championship since winning a bronze medal in 1994.

In Kayseri, Angola was no match for Serbia, which shrugged off the absence of center Nenad Krstic and guard Milos Teodosic to blow past the African champion.

Krstic has been suspended for three games and Teodosic for two for their roles in a brawl against Greece in a warmup tournament earlier this month in Athens.

"It was important to play well and win the first game," Rasic said. "We got a lot of easy points."

"My young team had many easy points, we were playing at a different speed than Angola," Serbia coach Dusan Ivkovic said.

Greece seemed to miss Antonis Fotsis and Sofoklis Schortsanitis, who were also suspended for two games for the brawl in Athens. Nikolaos Zisis and Ioannis Bourousis both scored 21 points to lead Greece.

China, playing without Houston Rockets center Yao Ming who is recovering from surgery on his left foot, got within two points late in the game before Greece retook control. Yi Jianlian of the Washington Wizards had 26 points for China.

"I feel bad, it was so close," said China guard Sun Yue, who scored 15 points.



USA's Kevin Durant, right, puts up a shot as Croatia's Luka Zoric defends during the preliminary round of the World Basketball Championship, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010, in Istanbul, Turkey.

Laird seizes control at The Barclays

PARAMUS, N.J. (AP)—Martin Laird suspected that four straight birdies early in the round and no bogeys had put him in the lead Saturday at The Barclays. When he finally glanced at a leaderboard, it gave him quite a jolt.

And it had nothing to do with the size of his three-shot lead.

The board occasionally shows the projected FedEx Cup standings. Laird, who started these playoffs at No. 95 and was hopeful of reaching the second round, saw his name at No. 1.

"I didn't think I'd come in here and move that much," Laird said after his 6-under 65. "I caught a glimpse of the projected FedEx Cup and I got a little shock."

It was a not-so-subtle reminder that winning goes a long way in these playoffs, and

Laird put himself in a great spot. He was at 12-under 201, three shots clear of Dustin Johnson and Jason Day with one round left at Ridgewood Country Club.

A victory for the 27-year-old Scot would move him to No. 1, assuring him a spot in all four majors next year, and making him a serious contender for the \$10 million FedEx Cup payoff.

Tiger Woods also has something at stake Sunday, but it most likely won't be a trophy. After missing only one fairway in each of the first two rounds, Woods hit his opening tee shot off the property and took triple bogey. He couldn't get those three shots back and shot 72, putting him nine shots behind. He needs a steady final round just to advance to second round next week outside Boston.

For Johnson, who has found nothing but hard luck in the majors this year, it will be his second straight tournament playing in the final group. So much for that hangover from the PGA Championship, where he was penalized two shots on the final hole when he didn't realize he was in a bunker at Whistling Straits, knocking him out of a playoff.

Johnson, struggling with a cold and his swing earlier in the week, began to hit his stride on a sunny day in northern New Jersey. On the 616-yard 13th hole, he blasted a 3-wood to about 15 feet for eagle, and added consecutive birdies a short time later on his way to a 64 that gave him a chance to win.

"I definitely put myself into the hunt," Johnson said.

The good news? Everyone knows what a bunker looks like at Ridgewood.

Day remains in the hunt, too, although he didn't help himself on a day for scoring at Ridgewood. The 22-year-old Australian regained the lead by chipping for eagle on the short par-4 fifth hole, but he simply missed too many putts and struggled enough with his driver - he hit only four fairways - to give it away. Day made five bogeys, one of them on a par 5 on the back nine, and had to settle for a 70.

"Just hit more fairways and I'll be able to set myself up better at making birdies," Day said.

Adam Scott birdied the 18th hole for a 68 and was four shots behind.

On the day before European captain Colin Montgomerie announces his three captain's picks, it might be pleasing to see a fellow Scot atop the leaderboard against such a strong field. Too bad it's Laird, who played college golf at Colorado

State and never left the American golf circuits. Plus, he has played so poorly all year that he's not even thinking about the Ryder Cup.

Laird was simply trying to get into the top 125 in the FedEx Cup standings to qualify for the playoffs, and he's moving up quickly.

Justin Rose, in his final round before Montgomerie makes his captain's picks, went off early having narrowly made the cut and shot 65 to join the group at 7-under 206 that included Ryan Palmer, Matt Kuchar, John Senden, Vaughn Taylor and Kevin Streelman.

"I think it's a tight selection process," said Rose, who has been quiet since wins at the Memorial and AT&T National. "It's just been nice to make a little bit of noise and shoot a great round to show him my game is there. I didn't go out there to prove anything today. But I'm glad that it worked

out. I think it's a timely round of golf.

Woods was in a tie for 28th, continuing his slide since he opened with a 65 to share the first-round lead.

Four shots behind to start the third round, his 3-wood went straight up in the air, then straight left, over the trees and out-of-bounds. He had to hit another tee shot, then missed a short putt and took triple bogey. Woods went out in 39 after a bogey on the ninth before he began another reclamation project birdies on the par 5s, and a 7-iron to 8 feet on the 18th hole for another birdie.

The top 100 in the standings—Woods is at No. 112—make it to the Deutsche Bank Championship, which donates its proceeds to the Tiger Woods Foundation. Woods likely will need something around par in the final round to get there.

Laird has much higher hopes.

Victorino's 2 RBIs carry Phillies past Padres, 3-1



SAN DIEGO (AP)—Shane Victorino had two of Philadelphia's three hits, including a go-ahead triple off Jon Garland in the seventh inning as the Philadelphia Phillies won their second straight game against the National League West-leading San Diego Padres, 3-1 on Saturday.

The Phillies, 13-2 against NL West teams, protected their wild-card lead, which was a half-game over San Francisco entering the day. San Diego, which has lost three straight games for only the second time this season, led the Giants by six.

Brad Lidge pitched a perfect ninth for his 18th save in 23 chances. On Friday night, Lidge balked in the tying run with two outs in the ninth, but the Phillies won 3-2 in 12 innings.

Jayson Werth scored on both of Victorino's hits. Victorino, the center fielder, also threw out Nick Hundley at the plate to end the fifth.

It was Philadelphia's 10th win in its last 11 games at Petco Park. The Phillies are 17-4 at the downtown ballpark since it opened in 2004.

Joe Blanton (6-6) held the Padres to one run and six hits in six innings. Blanton and three relievers retired the final 11 San Diego batters.

Cubs 3, Reds 2

At Cincinnati, Kosuke Fukudome hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer off Bronson Arroyo as Chicago finally ended years of futility against the right-hander by beating Cincinnati.

Fukudome's homer in the fifth inning sent Arroyo (14-8) to his first loss against the Cubs since 2007. Arroyo had won his last five decisions against Chicago, including his two starts this season.

Randy Wells (6-12) got a victory on his 28th birthday—his first win since July 23. Wells limited the NL's top offense to five hits and a pair of runs in six innings, including Joey Votto's solo homer. Chicago's bullpen allowed only one hit, with Carlos Marmol pitching the ninth for his 24th save in 29 tries.

Braves 12, Marlins 3

At Atlanta, Tim Hudson struck out a career-high 13 batters and Martin Prado equaled his career best with five RBIs as Atlanta trounced Florida.

Matt Diaz and Eric Hinske also homered for the Braves, who scored six runs in the second and snapped a four-game losing streak, their longest since April. They maintained a two-game lead in the NL East over Philadelphia.

Hudson (15-5), who has come back from major elbow surgery with perhaps the best season of his career, surpassed 1,500 strikeouts for his career.

Nationals 14, Cardinals 5

At Washington, Adam Dunn broke out of a prolonged slump with a homer and five RBIs to lead Washington to a victory over St. Louis.

Dunn was in an 8-for-66 skid over 20 games when he doubled home two runs for a 4-3 Nationals lead in a four-run third inning. With the score tied at 5 in the fifth, Dunn hit a three-run shot, his 32nd of the season and first since Aug. 11.

Livan Hernandez (9-9) allowed five runs in 6 1-3 innings to win for the first time in five starts.

Roger Bernadina homered and Mi-



Philadelphia Phillies' Shane Victorino hits an RBI triple scoring Jayson Werth during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the San Diego Padres, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2010 in San Diego. AP

chael Morse had a career-high four hits for the Nationals, who had lost five of six. The 14 runs were the most scored at home by the Nationals since relocating to Washington from Montreal before the 2005 season.

Astros 4, Mets 1

At New York, Carlos Lee homered off Johan Santana and Brett Myers set a team record as Houston won for the first time at Citi Field.

Lee also hit an RBI single in the first inning, when the Astros, who have won six of seven, got to Santana (10-9) for two quick runs. The New York Mets ace has an ERA of 8.04 in the first inning this season.

Myers (10-7) gave up six hits and a walk in seven innings. He faced exactly four batters in every inning and never allowed a runner past second.

Myers has pitched at least six innings in all of his 27 starts this season. Larry Dierker had the previous Astros record of 26 in 1969-70.

Rockies 5, Dodgers 3

At Denver, Jhoulys Chacin pitched sev-

en solid innings, and Todd Helton and Carlos Gonzalez homered as Colorado beat the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Gonzalez also tripled and scored two runs for the Rockies, who kept pace with Philadelphia in the NL wild-card race. Colorado is four games back of the Phillies.

Rod Barajas homered for the Dodgers, who had won the first four games of their six-game road trip.

Chacin (7-9) allowed one run and four hits while winning his second consecutive start. He walked four and struck out seven.

Brewers 8, Pirates 7

At Milwaukee, Lorenzo Cain hit a game-ending single in the 11th inning to lift Milwaukee over Pittsburgh.

Ryan Braun led off the 11th with a single off Wil Ledezman (0-1) and advanced to second when second baseman Neil Walker bobbled Prince Fielder's sharp grounder for an error. Casey McGehee flied out to left before the Brewers rookie center fielder hit a line-drive single to left.

Prince Fielder homered twice

for Milwaukee.

Diamondbacks 11, Giants 3

At San Francisco, Miguel Montero hit a three-run double to highlight a six-run first inning as Arizona went on to beat Barry Zito and San Francisco.

Mark Reynolds added a three-run home run and Daniel Hudson pitched four-hit ball over seven innings as the Diamondbacks won their third straight. Adam LaRoche hit a two-run homer and drove in three runs.

Pablo Sandoval homered for the Giants, who have lost three straight to fall 1 1/2 games behind the Philadelphia Phillies in the wild-card chase.

Zito (8-10) allowed a season-high nine runs on six hits over 3 2-3 innings. He walked five.

Rays 3, Red Sox 2

St. Petersburg, Florid, Dan Johnson stunned Boston again, hitting a leadoff homer in the 10th inning to give the Tampa Bay Rays a victory over the Red Sox.

Johnson sent a 2-2 pitch from Scott Atchison (2-2) into the right-field stands for his second clutch home run against the Red Sox in three years. Johnson is best known for a game-tying shot off closer Jonathan Papelbon on Sept. 9, 2008, that keyed an important comeback win en route to Tampa Bay's only American League pennant.

Randy Choate (4-3) retired David Ortiz with a runner on first and two outs in the 10th.

Athletics 5, Rangers 0

At Arlington, Texas, Dallas Braden pitched a four-hitter for his second career shutout and Daric Barton homered as Oakland cut a game off Texas' big lead in the AL West.

Braden (9-9) had been 4-7 since his perfect game against Tampa Bay on May 9, but the left-hander was in command from the start of this one. He didn't walk a batter and let only one runner reach third base.

The Rangers were shut out for only the third time this season and first at Rangers Ballpark.

Oakland's Kurt Suzuki matched a career high with four hits. Barton was 2 for 3, reached base four times and scored a career-high four runs.

Yankees 12, White Sox 9

At Chicago, CC Sabathia became the majors' first 18-game winner and Marcus Thames hit two of New York's four homers in a win over Chicago.

Eduardo Nunez hit his first career homer and drove in four runs for New York. Nick Swisher connected for a two-run drive and Robinson Cano had three hits.

Sabathia (18-5) struck out nine in seven innings, but allowed five runs and nine hits.

The Yankees got off to a fast start against John Danks (12-9), belting two-run homers in each of the first three innings to build a 6-1 lead.

Indians 4, Royals 3, 10 innings

At Cleveland, Asdrubal Cabrera led off the 10th inning with a home run to give Cleveland a win over Kansas City.

Cabrera hit a 2-1 pitch from right-hander Jesse Chavez (2-2) into the right-field seats. The Indians won their third straight and moved within a game of fourth-place Kansas City in the AL Central.

Chris Perez (2-2), the fifth Indians pitcher, worked a scoreless 10th for the win.

Wilson Betemit hit a two-run homer off Cleveland starter Jeanmar Gomez and tied it at 3 with an RBI double in the eighth against reliever Rafael Perez.

Twins 1, Mariners 0

At Seattle, Nick Blackburn and newly acquired reliever Brian Fuentes combined on a two-hitter for Minnesota.

Denard Span hit an RBI single in the third inning for the AL Central leaders.

After a walk to Ryan Langerhans in the second, Blackburn (8-8) retired 21 in a row before he walked Chone Figgins with two outs in the ninth. Fuentes was brought in to make his Twins debut and struck out Russell Branyan for his 24th save.

Blackburn allowed two hits against the punchless Mariners, both in the first inning.

Blue Jays 5, Tigers 4

At Toronto, Jose Bautista hit a two-run triple and Brandon Morrow earned his 10th win as Toronto held off Detroit despite a shaky ninth inning.

One day after blowing a late lead, Kevin Gregg struck out Ramon Santiago with a runner on second for his 30th save.

The major league leader in home runs with 42, Bautista went 2 for 3 with a double, a triple and a walk. He has 99 RBIs this season.

Morrow (10-6) allowed one run and four hits in six innings.

Orioles 5, Angels 0

At Anaheim, California, Kevin Millwood scattered six hits over eight gritty innings and Josh Bell hit a two-run homer in Baltimore's win over Los Angeles.

Millwood (3-14) won for the first time since posting back-to-back inter-league wins over San Diego and Florida on June 19 and June 24. Millwood struck out five and walked one.

Jim Johnson pitched a scoreless ninth, allowing one hit in his first appearance since April 30. He had been sidelined because of inflammation in his right elbow.

Williams' foot-fault official back at US Open



NEW YORK (AP)—The line judge who called a foot fault on Serena Williams that sent the star into a tirade during last year's U.S. Open semifinals will be officiating at this year's tournament.

In a statement issued to The Associated Press on Saturday, tournament

organizers said Shino Tsurubuchi "is a world class official and we are confident in her abilities."

The statement continued: "Consistent with U.S. Open officiating assignments, Ms. Tsurubuchi will officiate in both men's and women's matches, and will rotate through the various on-court officiating positions."

Williams, who leads active women

with 13 Grand Slam singles titles, withdrew last week from this year's U.S. Open, which begins Monday. She said she is not completely recovered from July 15 surgery to repair cuts on her right foot.

Tsurubuchi was working the baseline late in the 2009 U.S. Open semifinal between then-defending champion Williams and Kim Clijsters.

Tsurubuchi called a foot fault on a second serve by Williams, resulting in a double-fault that moved Clijsters one point from victory.

The ruling prompted a profanity-laced, racket-brandishing, finger-pointing tirade by Williams, who approached Tsurubuchi with what tournament director Jim Curley called at the time "a threatening manner."

Volleyball training course form available online



The Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association would like to inform interested coaches/teachers that registration form for the FIVB Volleyball Cooperation Program Teacher's Training Course set from Sept. 14 to 19 is now available online.

Forms can be downloaded by going to the organization's website: www.nmivolleyball.com.

NMIVA said applications may also be obtained by emailing the participants' request to nmivolleyball@gmail.com.

Completed applications may be submitted electronically via email to nmivolleyball@gmail.com or by hand delivery to Gabriel C. White at the Law Offices of Michael White on the second floor of the Joeten Building in Susupe (above Ebisuya). The deadline for submitting applications is 5:30pm on Sept. 10.

A 100 percent refundable deposit of \$100 per person is due at registration. A 50 percent refund will be issued to those who accomplish 100 percent attendance with the additional 50 percent refund to be issued to those who pass the final exam and receive their certificates.

"Simply, show up on time for each session and pass the exam to receive a 100 percent refund for you or your school. Alternatively, you may opt to donate your refund to NMIVA's program development projects," NMIVA said in a press statement.

Application fees must be paid at registration on Sept. 14—no exceptions. NMIVA will accept cash or check(s) made out to NMIVA. Credit cards or purchase orders will not be accepted.

The teachers' training course aims to motivate physical education instructors in the CNMI to teach volleyball and to improve their way of teaching the sport.

The course is open to PE teachers in primary and secondary schools and no prior experience in the sport of volleyball is necessary to attend the FIVB workshop.

NMIVA will be contacting the Public School System and the Coalition of Private Schools Association to encourage administrative support for teachers to attend and receive professional development credit.

Slots for the FIVB workshop are available for up to 30 total participants and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Completed applications will serve as a confirmed reservation. (PR)



ROSELYN B. MONROY

Nick Gross is seen here returning the ball during a NMIVA-organized beach volleyball league at the Pacific Islands Club. NMIVA will be holding a FIVB Volleyball Cooperation Program Teacher's Training Course next month.

MANGLONA

From Page 28

Manglona, after his title defense, admitted his first fight plan was to knock his foe out.

"I admit I was looking for a quick knockout win similar to what happened in Vegas last month, but still I am very pleased with the way things worked out. I gave Cruz credit because he did catch me with a good one, but I didn't panic... I just kept my composure and took what he gave me from then on," Manglona said.

In other results, light heavyweight Swain "The Pain" Cangco from Saipan's Predator Combat Team defeated Trench Tech's Sully Stone by TKO at 4:27 into the first round.

Coming into the fight, Cangco knew that Stone likes to throw a lot of kicks, so he avoided them and took this fight to the mat. Stone fought on his back

for virtually the whole fight, but was pummeled in the head multiple times by Cangco's ground and pound strikes. After the referee called it off, Stone was still a little dizzy and stumbled a bit when he went over to shake Cangco's hand. Cangco improved to a 4-1 record, while Stone suffered his first loss out of three fights.

The last fight on the semi-main card had Trench Tech's "Bad" Brad Palacios defeating Derrick "Pinchy" Rangamar from Choke Chain and Marianas Elite by TKO due to strikes at 4:10 into the first round.

Palacios was in top form again and outwrestled his opponent before dishing out a vicious ground and pound flurries. Palacios improved his MMA record to 8-3, while Rangamar dropped to 3-9. Hopefully, Palacios is hoping that his next opponent will have an MMA record similar to his own as his last two opponents both had losing skids.

Independent Saipan fighter, Robert "Pitbull" Palacios, improved his record to 3-5 after tapping out Niel "Lion-Heart" Taisacan with a rear-naked choke at 1:57 into the first round. Notably, even though Taisacan's record fell to 1-4, he gave up over 14 pounds to his opponent in this match-up.

In another light heavyweight bout, Saipan's Martin "Ning" Cepeda from PCT also scored a TKO win over Saipan's Lionel "Da Hellion" Borja from Choke Chain and Marianas Elite.

After the first round bell, the favored Borja could not get up during the break and remained laid out in the middle of the ring until the referee called it off. The win evened out Cepeda's record to 1-1, while Borja's record fell to 3-2.

The first bout on the semi-main card was a light heavyweight match and it went to Saipan's Edwin "Stix" Castro from the PCT after he tapped

out independent Saipan fighter Jack "The Ripper" Crisostimo with a Guillotine choke at 2:18 into the first round.

Castro was being dominated for the majority of the contest when he surprisingly put up the deep submission hold to Crisostimo. The impressive win improved Castro's record to 2-0, while Crisostimo fell to 2-4.

The 130-lb independent bantamweight fighter Peter Sakisat from Tinian won the last preliminary bout over Saipan's Frank Demapan out of PCT by tapout via a rear-naked choke at 2:37 into the first round. Sakisat improved to a 2-0 record while Demapan fell to 1-2 mark.

In a featherweight bout, Saipan's Derrick "The Gladiator" Chen soundly defeated independent Tinian fighter, Manny "The Doctor" Cepeda by TKO at 1:41 into the first round due to strikes. Chen finally put himself in the winner's column after two losses, while Cepeda's

record evened out to 1-1.

The first fight of the night was a 155-lb lightweight pairing where Saipan's Sonny Pua from Team Zalaka won his debut against another first-timer, Scott Santos of Tinian. Pua prevailed by tap out

at 1:15 into the second round with a Guillotine choke.

Notably, "Kill" Bill Saures and Giovanni "Palaxi" Sablan did not fight as scheduled because their respective opponents did not appear on fight night.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	79	50	.612	—
Tampa Bay	79	50	.612	—
Boston	74	56	.569	5 1/2
Toronto	68	61	.527	11
Baltimore	47	83	.362	32 1/2

Central Division

Minnesota	75	55	.577	—
Chicago	70	59	.543	4 1/2
Detroit	64	66	.492	11
Kansas City	54	75	.419	20 1/2
Cleveland	53	76	.411	21 1/2

West Division

Texas	73	56	.566	—
Oakland	64	64	.500	8 1/2
Los Angeles	63	67	.485	10 1/2
Seattle	50	79	.388	23

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	74	55	.574	—
Philadelphia	72	57	.558	2
Florida	65	63	.508	8 1/2
New York	64	65	.496	10
Washington	55	75	.423	19 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	74	55	.574	—
St. Louis	69	58	.543	4
Milwaukee	61	68	.473	13
Houston	59	70	.457	15
Chicago	55	75	.423	19 1/2
Pittsburgh	43	86	.333	31

West Division

San Diego	76	52	.594	—
San Francisco	71	59	.546	6
Colorado	67	61	.523	9
Los Angeles	67	63	.515	10
Arizona	52	78	.400	25

Yesterday's Games

Philadelphia 3, San Diego 1	
Washington 14, St. Louis 5	
Chicago Cubs 3, Cincinnati 2	
Atlanta 12, Florida 3	
Houston 4, N.Y. Mets 1	
Milwaukee 8, Pittsburgh 7, 11 innings	
Colorado 5, L.A. Dodgers 3	
Arizona 11, San Francisco 3	
Toronto 5, Detroit 4	
Minnesota 1, Seattle 0	
Cleveland 4, Kansas City 3, 10 innings	
N.Y. Yankees 12, Chicago White Sox 9	
Tampa Bay 3, Boston 2, 10 innings	
Oakland 5, Texas 0	
Baltimore 5, L.A. Angels 0	

THE BARCLAYS SCORES

PARAMUS, New Jersey (AP)—Results Saturday from The Barclays at the 7,319-yard, par-71 Ridgewood Country Club:

THIRD ROUND

Martin Laird	69-67-65—201
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BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dustin Johnson	71-69-64—204
Jason Day	67-67-70—204
Adam Scott	66-71-68—205
Justin Rose	72-69-65—206
Ryan Palmer	66-74-66—206
Matt Kuchar	68-69-69—206
John Senden	67-69-70—206
Vaughn Taylor	65-70-71—206
Kevin Streelman	72-63-71—206
Ryuji Imada	72-65-70—207
Ian Poulter	70-72-66—208
J.P. Hayes	72-69-67—208
Rickie Fowler	71-70-67—208
Steve Stricker	70-70-68—208
Angel Cabrera	68-71-69—208
Charlie Wi	69-70-69—208
Heath Slocum	67-71-70—208
Paul Casey	69-69-70—208
Padraig Harrington	69-68-71—208
Bill Haas	69-73-67—209
Retief Goosen	70-70-69—209
Josh Teater	68-71-70—209
Brian Gay	66-72-71—209
Zach Johnson	69-69-71—209
Webb Simpson	72-65-72—209
Stewart Cink	67-69-73—209
Luke Donald	70-72-68—210
Stephen Ames	73-68-69—210
Hunter Mahan	70-71-69—210
Robert Garrigus	69-72-69—210
Greg Chalmers	70-71-69—210
Kevin Na	72-69-69—210
Troy Matteson	71-69-70—210
Pat Perez	67-73-70—210
Charley Hoffman	68-72-70—210
Michael Sim	69-70-71—210
Tiger Woods	65-73-72—210
D.J. Trahan	67-71-72—210
Ben Crane	67-70-73—210
Rory Sabbatini	68-74-69—211
Bubba Watson	71-70-70—211
Marc Leishman	70-70-71—211
Chris Couch	67-72-72—211
Sean O'Hair	69-70-72—211
Matt Jones	72-70-70—212
Andres Romero	73-69-70—212
Stuart Appleby	70-71-71—212
Camilo Villegas	67-74-71—212
Nick Watney	69-71-72—212
D.A. Points	70-70-72—212
David Duval	68-72-72—212
Tim Petrovic	68-69-75—212
Jimmy Walker	68-74-71—213
Rory McIlroy	68-74-71—213
Justin Leonard	71-71-71—213
Chad Campbell	72-69-72—213
Davis Love III	67-74-72—213
Bryce Molder	72-67-74—213
Aaron Baddeley	72-70-72—214
Jeff Overton	68-73-73—214
Spencer Levin	72-69-73—214
Y.E. Yang	73-67-74—214
Robert Allenby	73-67-74—214
Jonathan Byrd	67-72-75—214
Ernie Els	71-71-73—215
John Merrick	73-69-73—215
Chad Collins	68-74-73—215
Scott Verplank	67-75-73—215
Kenny Perry	72-70-75—217
Brian Davis	72-70-75—217
J.J. Henry	68-73-77—218

IT&E

From Page 28

that canto. His five other teammates scored the rest of IT&E's points, giving the team a 51-41 lead, entering the final canto.

In the fourth quarter, it was Errol Peredo's turn to shine. He knocked down IT&E's first seven points and added four more in the home stretch for the squad's 14-point win. Peredo finished with a game-high 17 points.

Tumaquip added 13, De Vero chipped in 11, and four other IT&E players tallied at least five points apiece.

Edmark Mendoza and James paced Wings Travel with 13 point each.

In the second game, Doco-

mo built a big lead in the first quarter and it was enough to lift the team past the rallying Atalig Associates.

Docomo took a 33-13 lead at the end of the first period, as it had six players making at least two field goals each in the opening canto.

In contrast, Atalig Associates had only Ben Lisua drilling more than two baskets for the team in the first quarter. However, Atalig Associates started picking up its offense in the second period, outgunning Docomo, 30-24, and then continued its comeback in the third period, 27-20, to move within seven, 70-77, going into the final quarter.

In the fourth quarter, Docomo finally got its acts together, keeping pace with Atalig As-

sociate on offense to avoid a monumental collapse and win its first game of the season.

Docomo foiled Atalig Associates' last ditch effort by drilling important free throws in the last two minutes of the match.

Docomo's last six points of the game came from the foul line with Ron Gamboa tallying three charities, Elmer Esdrelon canning two, and Jun Estolas nailing one.

Besides the four debuting teams, six other squads are entered in the inaugural QQ caging; Cell Pro, Ferrera Builders, Pacific Grocers, Symar Pilot, Buraot, and Westerners.

Games in the QQ Cup will be played every Wednesday and Friday at the Garapan Basketball Court. The first match is set for 6pm, while the second game

is scheduled for 8pm.

First Game

IT&E 68 — Peredo 17, Tumaquip 13, De Vero 11, Dayrit 8, R. Usi 6, Naraja 5, Lazona 5, M. Usi 3.

Wings Travel 54 — Mendoza 13, Camacho 13, Talania 8, Olivos 7, Yalung 6, Gabaldon 2, Ocampo 2, Morales 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-13, 35-28, 51-41, 68-54.

Second Game

Docomo 99 — Esdrelon 20, Gamboa 18, Santos 17, Estolas 13, Villarin 8, Lee 6, Sharry 6, Fernandez 4, Diaz 2.

Atalig Associates 92 — Tamayo 21, Tengco 19, Lisua 7, Camacho 6, Capalad 6, Mina 6, Babauta 1.

Scoring by quarters: 33-13, 57-43, 77-70, 99-92.

MIEKO

From Page 28

in last week's race, Carey still posted a good time, as her 3:03:00 was just less than three minutes behind his 2010 winning time of 3:00:16. Carey won last year's women's division against Australian pro Kylee Lock.

The race in Japan was the

last of the major events Carey will be joining in this year before she heads to Hawaii in October for the 2010 XTERRA World Championships.

Carey qualified for XTERRA World after placing in the Top 5 in XTERRA Saipan Championships in March this year.

After XTERRA Saipan, Carey was scheduled to compete in XTERRA Malaysia, but

the event was cancelled due to funding problem.

The cancellation of the event in Malaysia gave her time to join adventure races in Guam and Japan before she represented the CNMI to the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau early this month.

In Palau, she won the gold medal in the women's division and helped the CNMI

take the gold medal, too, in the team event.

In Japan for XTERRA, Miekko was joined by husband Kevin Carey, who competed in the shorter course.

Other details of Miekko and Kevin's races were unavailable at press time, as the former has yet to return Saipan Tribune's email, requesting for complete results of the weekend event.

Weekend Sports

Rain slows down week

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Indoor events were lucky to push through with their competitions, while outdoor matches were hit by rain last week.

The Emon Lodge caging were among the fortunate ones to have its usual games at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The 10-team league scheduled five games with four played and one forfeited. After Week 7, Mobil remained unbeaten (7-0) in Emon Lodge caging to lead the team standings. Armatech is in second place with its 6-1 slate, followed by Marianas Wireless (5-2), Sparks (4-3), Ochie's (4-3), MBI-Right Guard (4-3), Wings Travel (2-5), Joeten Superstores (2-5), Marianas Resort (1-6), and Tropical Laundry (0-7).

Still in basketball, the playoff cast in the Budweiser caging

was completed last week with the Bud Light CNM Nationals gaining the No. 1 spot with their undefeated 8-0 slate in the regular season. Joining the Nationals to the double-elimination playoffs were Hoegaarden IT&E, Becks Sixsevenoh, Bacardi Mojito Hi-5, Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces, and O'Doul's Runnin' Rebels.

In bowling, the Saipan Bowling Center had its August roll-offs at the Capital Bowling Center with three keggers winning monthly plums.

Raymond Angeles won his first monthly Budweiser King of the Lanes title after nipping Richard Leong, 808-803.

In the Queen of the Lanes, Omechelang added the August title to her March win after scoring 665 pinfalls in the monthly roll-off and beating Ron Cal (640) and Elena Soll (622) and Yho Villavicencio (622).

In the Fiji Water Prince/Princess of the Lanes, M.J. Aldan had a three-peat after dominating the August roll-off with his

641 pinfalls. Aldan prevailed over Marion McKenzie (564) Marcel McKenzie (364).

The unlucky ones that were affected by rain were the Miller Lite and UFO basketball leagues and the inter-government and business softball league.

The Miller Lite caging have yet to complete its final cast, as the playoff game between Grillin' and Satbahi has yet to be played. The winner of the knockout match was supposed to battle first finalist Wings

Travel last Saturday.

UFO had its Tuesday schedule called off due to rain, but the league managed to resume action on Thursday with MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt and MDX-Chow Queen winning their respective matches at the JP Center Basketball Court.

The 2010 Inter-Government/Business Slow-pitch Softball League was set to kick off last Tuesday at the Capital Hill Ballfield, but the opening matches were moved to Thursday due to rain, too.

Last Thursday, Cert/No Zone, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Marianas Resort prevailed in their debuts.

Besides the rained-out matches, other developments reported last week were Yvonne Bennett and company's records becoming official; Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association welcoming the change in the age group competition in the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji; Basketball Association of Northern Marianas Islands secretary general Michael White representing the CNMI in the FIBA World Congress in Istanbul, Turkey; Tan Siu Lin Foundation honoring the May and June top student athletes; and Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts announcing the pairings for "Armageddon."



FIBAOCEANIA.COM
BANMI secretary general Michael White, seen here delivering a speech during the 2009 FIBA Oceania Congress on Saipan, will join FIBA Oceania officials in attending the FIBA World Congress in Istanbul, Turkey next month.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Keli "Rukiz" Manglona was one of the fighters featured in Gorilla Warfare MMA's "Armageddon."



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Yvonne Bennett, in front, made records in the 100m, 200m, and 400m runs in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau and all these are now officially listed in the Pacific Islands rankings book.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jeff Race, seen here returning a shot to Guam's Wendell Roden during the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau, said the age group modification in the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships is good for the program in the region.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Sparks' Thomas Santos pulls up for a running jumper against Wings Travel during their game in the Emon Lodge caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Tan Siu Lin Foundation manager Ed Arriola, left, poses with Tan Siu Lin/NMASA June Student Athletes of the Month award winners Christian Miller and Negahr Rastguiy during a brief award ceremony at the TSL Plaza last Monday.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX-Chow Queen's Christian De Vero goes up for a shot against two SIP-Mobil defenders during their game in the UFO caging last Thursday at the JP Center Basketball Court.



Manglona tops foe, defends title



WALTER SUTHERLAND

"Bad" Brad Palacios, left, pins down Derrick "Pinchy" Rangamar during their bout in the Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts "Armageddon" last Saturday at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

BY WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Keli "Rukiz" Manglona defended his Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts middleweight title after tapping out Guam's Cody Cruz from Guahan Top Team with a rear-naked choke at

the 1:48 mark in the first round in GWMMA Armageddon's main event bout last Saturday at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.

Manglona initially elected to stand and bang with Cruz, but the latter caught the champion with a nice hook to the jaw, dropping the home bet to the canvas.



WALTER SUTHERLAND

Keli "Rukiz" Manglona, top, hits Guam's Cody Cruz on the head during their bout in the Gorilla Warfare Mixed Martial Arts "Armageddon" last Saturday at the Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort.

However, the decorated grappler immediately regained his composure and then utilized his superior wrestling skills to secure a dominant ground position against Cruz. Once on top, Manglona dealt Cruz with some big ground and pound blows before taking his opponent's back and choking him out shortly after.

The win gave Manglona a flawless MMA record of 7-0, while Cruz had to eat his first loss out of four fights.

Cruz accepted the challenge of battling Manglona on a short notice and in front of the home crowd, which screamed for the latter from the second the former came out of the backroom.

See MANGLONA on Page 26

IT&E, Docomo/Mobil win debuts

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



IT&E and Docomo/Mobil won the opening games in the 2010 QQ Rent A Car Basketball Cup, which kicked off last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

IT&E played in the curtain-raiser and nailed a methodical 68-54 victory over Wings Travel, while Docomo survived Atalig Associates' rallies in the second game to pull off a 99-92 triumph.

Ivan De Vero started for IT&E and scored the first basket of the game. He went on to finish with 10 first-quarter points, giving IT&E a 19-13 advantage.

IT&E never relinquished the driver's seat from thereon, as De Vero's teammates also stepped up and the team used its speed advantage to escape with easy fastbreak layups against the much slower players of Wings Travel. IT&E also leaned on its 3-point shooting to win its debut game, firing seven triples against Wing Travel's only one.

Jomary Tumaquip made his second triple of the night in the third period and scored IT&E's first five points in

See IT&E on Page 26



► Wings Travel's Edmark Mendoza, right, and IT&E's Errol Peredo battle for the rebound during the opening game in the 2010 QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko rules XTERRA Japan again

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Micronesian Games gold medalist Mieko Carey topped the XTERRA Japan Championship for the second straight year.

The 32-year-old Saipan triathlete was the first female finisher in last Saturday's race in Marunuma, Gunma Prefecture, successfully defending the title she won in 2009.

Initial reports had Carey completing the 1.2-kilometer swim, 25-km mountain bike race, and 10-km run event in three hours and three minutes. The reports added that Mieko and the more than 50 participants in the weekend race had to survive rain and lightning to make it to the finish line.

The XTERRA Japan website did not report who Carey beat in the women's division, but there were several other pros who joined the annual race. These include 2010 British Cross Triathlon Champion and endurance mountain biker turned pro XTERRA racer Ian Leitch and South Africa's Lieuwie Boonstra. The two are ranked 10th and 12th, respectively in XTERRA European Tour standings.

The race also featured pros from Japan and Korea.

Despite the bad race day condition

See MIEKO on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mieko Carey, seen here with her trademark smile after completing the race in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau early this month, won XTERRA Japan for the second straight time.